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Mr. FOLSOM read a letter from Mrs. Walsh, widow of the late Robert Walsh, consul at Paris, presenting a photograph of M. Jomard.

NOVEMBER MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting was held this day, Thursday, Nov. 12, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the President in the chair.

Donations were announced to the library from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; the President and Trustees of Bowdoin College; the New-England Loyal Publication Society; die Oberlausitzischen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Görlitz; the Royal Academy of Sciences of Lisbon; the publishers of the "Farmer's Almanac;" the publishers of the Canada "Journal de l'Instruction Publique;" John Appleton, M.D.; William Durrant Cooper, Esq.; D. P. Corey, Esq.; Valentine M. Francis, M.D.; Clement H. Hill, Esq.; Benjamin P. Johnson, Esq.; E. B. O'Callaghan, M.D.; Augustus T. Perkins, Esq.; Benjamin S. Shaw, M.D.; Mr. S. H. Smothers; Mr. S. Urbino; and from Messrs. Bartlet, Brooks (W. G.), Deane, Green, Livermore, Loring, Metcalf, Robbins (C.), Walker, Webb, and Winthrop, of the Society.

The President announced the death of Lord Lyndhurst, an Honorary Member of this Society, and the death of Hon. William Sturgis, a Resident Member, in the following terms:—

We may not forget, gentlemen, that, since our last monthly meeting, two names of more than common significance have been stricken from our rolls,—one of them the name of an Honorary, and the other of a Resident Member. You would hardly pardon me for omitting some brief notice of them before passing to the regular business of the day.

The Right Hon. Sir John Singleton Copley, Lord Lyndhurst, died in London on the 12th of October last. He was elected an Honorary Member of this Society in February, 1858; and his letter of acceptance was reported by our Corresponding Secretary at the ensuing May meeting. He was a native of this city; having been born in Boston on the twenty-first day of May, 1772. His father, who was also a native Bostonian, left America in 1774, with a primary view to the more favorable pursuit of that career as an artist in which he afterwards acquired such eminent distinction. For this purpose, he went first to Italy; but in the following year he sent for his family, who had remained in Boston, to join him in London. The young Copley was thus taken, at only three years of age, to the land which was chosen for him by his parents, and which was destined to be the scene of his long and brilliant life. He is said to have been a passenger, with his mother and sisters, in the very last ship which left our shores under British colors before the battle of Bunker Hill; sailing on the 27th of May, 1775.

Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, he was called to the bar in 1804, and continued for twelve or thirteen years in the assiduous and almost uninterrupted practice of the law. The care which he bestowed on his cases at this period is well illustrated by the fact (for which I have the authority of one of his American relatives), that, in order to do better justice to the defence of the patent of an English lacemaker, he not only passed a week at the factory studying the loom and its processes, but actually tried his own hand at the manufacture of the article. The familiarity with the machine

which he displayed in the course of his argument having led to the remark from the judge who presided at the trial, "I should think, Serjeant Copley, you were a lacemaker yourself," he instantly acknowledged that the piece which had been brought into court to illustrate the case was his own handiwork. I need hardly add, that he won the case, and secured the fortune of his client. An earlier illustration of the same eager and persevering spirit of inquiry and investigation is found in the story which has often been told of him in his family, — that, when a mere boy, he got up one morning before anybody else in the house was stirring, and took the kitchen clock to pieces, in order to find out exactly how it was made; and then, having satisfied his curiosity, put it safely together again.

In the year 1817, or, as some accounts have it, in 1818, he entered the House of Commons; and, from that time, became conspicuous in public life. His energy and self-reliance, his industry, ability, and eloquence, soon secured for him the highest legal and political honors of the British Empire. The details of his public career belong to more extended notices and to other occasions. It is enough to say here, that he became successively Solicitor-General, Attorney-General, Master of the Rolls, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and three times Lord Chancellor.

Since his retirement from all official duties except those which devolved on him as a member of the House of Lords, by virtue of the peerage conferred on him in 1827, he has been hardly less prominent in the public eye than when he held the great seal. He was one of the few parliamentary orators, of late years, who commanded attention beyond the limits of his own land, and whose speeches, on foreign and domestic questions alike, were read with interest and eagerness in all parts of the world. There are those who remember well how emphatically Mr. Webster spoke, on his return from England many years ago, of the clearness, cogency, and

true eloquence which characterized a speech of Lord Lyndhurst's which he had himself been fortunate enough to hear. Like Mr. Webster, he was especially remarkable for the power and precision with which he stated his case, and for the lucid order in which he arranged and argued it. His advancing age seemed only to add mellowness and richness to his eloquence, while it greatly enhanced the interest with which he was listened to. As late as 1860, when he was on the verge of his eighty-ninth year, he made a speech on the respective rights of the two houses of Parliament, which was regarded as a model of argument and oratory, and which made London ring anew with admiration of "the old man eloquent."

Lord Lyndhurst revisited his native land in 1796, when he was only twenty-four years of age, and while he was still connected with the University at Cambridge as a travelling Fellow. Two letters written by him in Latin, agreeably to the requisitions of his fellowship, during this visit, are still extant; and our honored associate, Mr. Everett, promises to send us copies of them at some future day. I know not whether his presentation to Washington is mentioned in either of them; but he seemed always proud of recalling that fact. He ever evinced a deep interest in the condition and welfare of our country; keeping up a constant correspondence with relatives and friends in Boston, and always giving a cordial welcome to such Americans as were commended to his acquaintance. No one who has enjoyed his hospitality will soon forget his genial and charming manners, and the almost boyish gayety and glee with which he entered into the amusements of the hour. The last time I saw him, — less than four years ago, — he rose from his own dinner-table, and placing one arm on the shoulder of our accomplished associate, Mr. Motley, and the other on my own, he proceeded towards the drawing-room, — remarking playfully, as he went, that he believed he could always rely safely on the support of his fellow-Bostonians.

Living to the great age of nearly ninety-two years, with almost unimpaired faculties, taking a lively and personal interest to the end both in public affairs and in social enjoyments, and dying at last the senior peer of England, his name and fame will not soon be forgotten. It may safely be said, that Boston has given birth to but few men — perhaps only to one other, Franklin — who will have secured a more permanent or prominent place in the world's history. A portrait of him might well be included, at some future day, in the Historical Gallery of illustrious Americans which we are gradually accumulating, and would form an appropriate companion-piece to that of our venerable senior member (Mr. Quincy), of whom he was a contemporary, correspondent, and friend. Meantime, the Society may not think it unfit to place upon their records the following resolution: —

Resolved, That in the death of our late distinguished Honorary Member, Lord Lyndhurst, — a native Bostonian, and whose life covers the whole period of our existence as a nation, — this Society cannot fail to recognize the close of a great historical career, which has reflected honor at once on the land of his birth and the land of his adoption.

This resolution, after remarks by Messrs. Sparks, Savage, and Quincy, was unanimously adopted.

The President then proceeded as follows: —

The Hon. William Sturgis died in this city on the evening of the 21st of October, at the age of eighty-one years. Born on Cape Cod, and taking naturally to the sea as the field of his early enterprise, he soon rose to the highest rank as a navigator. His voyages to the North-west Coast, and to China and the East Indies, at a time when our commerce with those regions was in its infancy, were frequently attended with adventures and perils of an almost romantic character. They served at once to display and to develop the extraordinary energy and bravery of his nature. Quitting the sea

with a large fund of commercial experience, and establishing himself in a mercantile house in Boston, he became one of our most successful, enterprising, and eminent merchants, as well as one of our most esteemed and valuable citizens. Wherever he was, on sea or on shore, he exhibited a sagacity and an intellectual vigor of the highest order. Few men of any profession have surpassed him in clearness of comprehension, in quickness of perception, or in practical common sense. And no man surpassed him in the courage to declare and defend his own opinions, whatever they were. Frequently a member of both branches of our State Legislature, he was distinguished for his readiness and ability as a debater. It was a rare thing for any one to get the advantage of him in offhand, or even in more deliberate, discussion. Nor was his pen less ready than his tongue. His frequent contributions to the public journals in former years, and his written reports in the Legislature and elsewhere, would compare well with those of most of our trained scholars.

During the controversy between Great Britain and the United States on the subject of the Oregon boundary, his personal acquaintance with that territory, and his familiarity with the whole history of its discovery, were of the highest importance to our Government. The lecture which he delivered on this subject before the Mercantile-Library Association of our city, and which was printed at the time, was one of the most interesting and valuable public discussions of the question; while his private correspondence with distinguished statesmen, both at home and abroad, was well understood to have had no small influence in bringing the controversy to an amicable and satisfactory issue.

It was only a few months since that our departed associate and friend promised me that he would put this correspondence into a shape to be preserved in the archives of our Society; and I trust that it may still find its appropriate place here. I need not say that he had given other evidences of his inter-

est in our welfare. You have not forgotten the announcement at our last annual meeting, that he had made a donation to our treasury of the whole amount needed to complete the discharge of the mortgage on this building. Finding, as one of the Committee to examine our accounts, that about twelve hundred dollars would accomplish that result, he volunteered to send me his check for the sum, on the simple condition that his name should not be published in the newspapers. Mr. Sturgis has thus entitled himself to be gratefully remembered among our benefactors, as well as among our most respected and distinguished associates; and I am sure you will all concur in the adoption of the customary resolution, which I am instructed by the Standing Committee to report as follows:—

Resolved, That this Society has heard with deep regret of the death of their valued associate, the Hon. William Sturgis; and that the President be directed to name one of our number to prepare a Memoir of him for our Transactions.

This resolution was seconded by the Hon. CHARLES G. LORING, who spoke as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—I ask indulgence for a few minutes to express my concurrence in the proposed resolution.

My acquaintance with Mr. Sturgis, although of long-distant date as a general one, had ripened in the course of the past six or seven years into a very cordial, and, I think I may say, somewhat intimate friendship. Our intercourse, though at the first chiefly official, soon became frequent, and far exceeding the necessities or ordinary routine of business. I can therefore, I think, speak with somewhat of authority concerning his claims upon our remembrance, and bear testimony to the fitness of the record of it which it is now proposed to make.

In the course of a long and busy life, presenting many

opportunities for observation and study of the characters of prominent men in our community, I remember no one of more striking peculiarities and harmonized strength than that of our deceased friend in his later, and, as I am disposed to believe, his best days. For surely we may reasonably account those the best, when effort and aspiration have terminated in possession of the prizes of life, and opportunity and disposition are given for the right enjoyment and use of them;—when the vigorous faculties exerted in their attainment still find “ample room and verge enough” for gently exciting play in the duties and incidents of family relationship and social life, in the guardianship of the interests of others, and the needed authority of ripened judgment in the general affairs of men;—when the mellowing influence of a long experience in self-examination, and in varied observation of the mingled and often undistinguishable strength and weakness, virtue and frailty, truth and error, which compose so much of the motley web of human life, have begotten that spirit of liberal interpretation of motive and conduct which such experience alone seems able to beget;—when the standard of truthfulness, honor, and fidelity to duty, has become the ever-ready and controlling test of worth, and of claims for consideration and respect;—and when a subdued consciousness of the affection and respect of descendants, relatives, associates, and friends, throws its mellow sunshine upon the descending path of earthly life. And such were the peculiar blessings of old age, in the midst of which our friend has left us.

The prominent elements of the character of Mr. Sturgis are too generally and too well known to require minute description and analysis on this occasion; and the history of its formation would demand more time and space than the occasion permits. They may well become the subject of a Memoir for the archives of this Society, of which he was a liberal benefactor and an honored member; one who has made material contributions

to the history of a portion of the country. It is enough for the present purpose, and in view of a more enlarged memorial, that we now recognize the marvellous strength of that character, in the vigor of his intellect, his almost unequalled quickness and accuracy of perception, his far-reaching sagacity, his profound and comprehensive judgment, his keen insight into human nature, his untiring energy, indomitable resolution, and unflinching courage;—that we recall to mind his varied and accurate knowledge, extending far beyond the confines of his especial pursuits and occupation; his cultivated literary taste, his brilliant conversational powers, his genial disposition and inspiring vivacity, his aptness in lively repartee, and happy social influences upon all around him;—and that to these we can add the remembrance of his high sense of honor, his unswerving loyalty to truth, and fidelity to every trust.

These were traits of character obvious to all who came within the circle of his acquaintance. But to these elements of strength and power were united others, which, though less conspicuous, are yet not less worthy of recorded remembrance. To them he added a tender love and generous devotion to his children and relatives; the most considerate and enduring affection for his friends, extending after their death to those dear to them, in continued deeds of substantial kindness; and an enlightened and extensive liberality, founded on a mingled sense of duty and generous feeling, of which many institutions and individuals have been the recipients, but which, during his life, remained mostly unknown, because of the uniform injunction of secrecy, upon the pledge of which the gifts were made; it being his constant effort in these ministrations that his left hand should not know what his right hand was doing.

With this hasty and very imperfect tribute to the memory of our friend, I beg leave to second the adoption of the resolution.

The resolution, after a few remarks by Mr. QUINCY, was unanimously adopted.

The President nominated Mr. Loring to prepare the customary Memoir of Mr. Sturgis.

Mr. QUINCY presented several valuable manuscripts, accompanying them with interesting reminiscences.

Among the papers presented by Mr. Quincy was an account of the physicians of Boston during and after the Revolutionary War, embracing a notice of the formation of the Massachusetts Medical Society, by Dr. Ephraim Eliot; also a diary kept during the siege of Boston, by Ezekiel Price; also a copy of the celebrated intercepted letter of Monsieur Barbé de Marbois to the French minister, Vergennes; also a receipt given by Eleazer Richard to Isaac Lothrop for eight dollars, in payment of the large wooden bowl which once belonged to the Indian King Philip, and which has been for many years in the cabinet of this Society, it having been deposited there by Mr. Lothrop in 1807.

These papers were referred to the Committee on the publication of the Proceedings, and are here printed.

*Dr. Ephraim Eliot's Account of the Physicians of Boston.**

In August, 1780, I commenced the study of physic under Dr. Isaac Rand's direction. The physicians of Boston had diminished in their number in consequence of hostilities between Great Britain and the

* Dr. Ephraim Eliot was the son of the Rev. Andrew Eliot, D.D., pastor of the New North Church in Boston; and brother of the Rev. John Eliot, D.D., the author of the "Biographical Dictionary" and other historical writings. He was graduated at Harvard College in 1780, and studied medicine with Dr. Isaac Rand, a distinguished physician of Boston, who died 11th September, 1822, in the eightieth year of his age. Dr. Eliot was for many years a well-known druggist in Boston. Like his brother, Dr. John Eliot, who was one of the founders and principal supporters of the Massachusetts Historical Society, he had a love for historical and antiquarian studies, and was also a useful member of this Society. This sketch of the Physicians of Boston, which we believe has never been published, is now printed from his manuscript, on

colonies in 1776. Many of those who then did the business of the town, being royalists, had left it, and had joined with others who went to Nova Scotia or Great Britain under British protection. Their places were not filled; the inhabitants of the town being reduced to about fourteen or fifteen thousand, in consequence of the war. The medical gentlemen were of very eminent character,—for instance, Dr. Sylvester Gardiner, whose reputation was high as an operator in surgery also, and he did the largest business as a druggist of any person in Boston; Dr. Nathaniel Perkins, who was supposed to attend a greater number of patients, as a physician, than any other practitioner in the town; William Lee Perkins, who was respectable as to business and reputation. Dr. John Jeffries was gaining in the esteem of the public, and valued as a man of promise in the profession. These are all who are now recollected by me, being then a schoolboy only. Their characters I have since learned from those who knew them. Add to these Dr. John Sprague, who had retired on an ample fortune, whose practice had been large, and who had a confidence placed in him which followed him in his retreat; and he was sent for, and consulted by the physicians here for very many years. Dr. Philip Godfrey Kast and Dr. John Perkins were very old men, and had retreated from practice on that account. Dr. Miles Whitmarsh had once a respectable share of practice. He was unfortunately the attending physician at the jail in 1775. The wounded prisoners from Bunker Hill were thrown into the common prison, and provided with little better than jail provisions. They suffered, and some died; in particular, Lieutenant-Colonel Gardner, or Parker,* a very respectable man. Much was the blame laid on the doctor; whether justly or not, is dubious. He remained in Boston, was neglected, and died in 1778. Dr. Joseph Warren's practice was large and increasing when he lost his life and immortalized his name. Dr. Benjamin Church was gaining practice among the Whig interest; but, for reasons that are sufficiently known, was banished from the country. Many other and perhaps eminent characters may have flourished; but, from my age and juvenile avocations, I dare not attempt to enumerate them.

When I commenced my professional studies, I found the following

which his name is written, with the date "1823." Some copies were circulated in manuscript among the medical friends of the writer. Dr. Thacher evidently made use of this sketch in writing his "American Medical Biography." Dr. Eliot died in September, 1827, aged sixty-five.—EDS.

* "Parker," interlined in the manuscript, is the right name.—EDS.

gentlemen doing the business of the town: viz., beginning at the south, Dr. Benjamin Curtis, who was employed there considerably; Dr. John Warren, whose character and qualifications have been sufficiently known till a few years since, when he died; * Dr. Charles Jarvis, who stood high in rank, and deservedly: his practice would doubtless have been large if he had not chosen to devote himself to political life, which prevented him from attending to his profession as was desired. The style of a gentleman which marked his conduct in the chamber of the sick, and the tender sympathy which he evinced when attending to his surgical practice, endeared him in a peculiar manner to his employers. Dr. Joseph Gardiner was employed, both as a physician and surgeon, probably more than any other gentleman in the profession. He pretended that he looked upon learning as superfluous; that the bedside was the only school for a physician: but he *did* study, and was a more learned man than he chose to appear. He was witty and satirical, and very greatly esteemed. Dr. Joseph Whipple was taken under the protection of Dr. Gardiner, and was rising into notice. Dr. Nathaniel [W.] Appleton was a most amiable man, but was too diffident to show his real worth and abilities, which were very far above mediocrity. Dr. Thomas Welsh ought to take rank as an older physician than the two last gentlemen: he was then in the incipient state of his business, having been engaged in the American Army for some years. Dr. James Lloyd was ranked high in the profession. He took the lead in regard to the practice of surgery; was the first who introduced the male practice of the obstetric art as a general appendage to the office of a physician: was very successful in it, and consequently greatly esteemed among the ladies. He entertained a great deal of company, kept a genteel equipage, and a suite of servants: his horses were esteemed equal to any in the town. He was a gentleman of the old stamp, and deservedly respected and valued. He observed to a near and valued friend of mine, in regard to his practice in a lying-in chamber: "I never in my life refused to attend a call, even to the poorest class of society, in those cases which often require immediate assistance. If there was only a bed of straw, I saw that it was beaten up, and rendered as easy and comfortable as it was possible, and with my own arms invariably laid the delivered woman upon it; and I assure you, sir, I have been amply paid by the esteem and affection of my patients." Dr. Thomas Bul-

* Dr. Warren died 4th April, 1815, aged sixty-two. — *Thacher's Medical Biography*. — Eds.

finch had a good share of very genteel practice, and lived in good style. He kept a chariot, was very tender and affectionate, and greatly valued by those who employed him. Dr. Bulfinch declined joining the Medical Society. Dr. Samuel Danforth was then rising to an eminence in the profession which has not been exceeded in Boston. Setting theories aside, he formed one of his own: he endeavored to enlist no man, but he persevered in it himself till he acquired a very great confidence in his judgment, and was probably consulted in more cases than any other physician of his day. He is now living,* and people hold on to his judgment, though his abilities are obscured by age and infirmities, and he is but a shadow of what he was. Dr. Isaac Rand was one of the most learned men of his day. Being much of a mathematician, he was seeking for something like demonstration on which to lean in his profession. For want of it, he was always dissatisfied, and probably read more books than any physician among us. He was apt to pin his faith on *the last book*. He was, however, a successful practitioner, had a discriminating judgment, was a good surgeon, and remarkably neat in his operations. Dr. Thomas Kast had a large practice among the lower and middling class of people, with whom he was a great favorite. He accumulated much property, making every one pay him something; and, being an economist, he turned it to much advantage. I do not recollect any other regular stated physicians: being war-time, many were coming and going, who were attached to the army and navy, and to numerous privateers; but they were birds of passage, and, though here to-day, were gone to-morrow. The gentlemen I have noted were all respectable men in society, and had the best advantages the country could afford. Many of them had spent a part of their time in Europe, and attended practice in the hospitals in London, Edinburgh, &c. To the credit of the country, *there was not a quack or empirical physician in this place*. Such persons were always frowned upon by the people, and soon hid themselves. The only one I recollect who had got a footing here was a German, named Jeorku [?]. It was said he had been a dresser in the British military hospital in Quebec. He removed into Boston, and got some business among the Dutch inhabitants and their posterity. He was never acknowledged by the physicians as a brother; but he dressed a wound and applied a bandage with great despatch and neatness. I never knew him to perform an operation, and [he] was thought to be a very ignorant man. These,

* Dr. Danforth died 16th November, 1827, aged eighty-eight. — *Thacher's Medical Biography*. — EDS.

excepting the last, were the persons who petitioned for the incorporation of the Massachusetts Medical Society. The plan was enlarged, and many eminent men in different parts of the Commonwealth were added. They first met in 1781 or 1782, and chose their officers; and have regularly done so at stated times to this day.

At this time, great difficulties were experienced by professional men in consequence of the fluctuating situation of the old Continental money. It was constantly depreciating; and, although handsome charges were made, the amount realized on collections scarce afforded a living. In consequence of this, the physicians instituted a club, which met at the Green-Dragon Tavern. The immediate object was to obviate the difficulties consequent on the fluctuation of the paper-money. Physicians' fees had been very small: by recurring to Dr. Rand's books, I found the fee for a visit at his first commencing business was one shilling and sixpence. It was afterwards increased to two shillings. Dr. Lloyd, and perhaps some others, demanded half a dollar; but their practice was among such as were in high life. Midwifery was at a guinea; capital operations about the same; and the patients were charged with after-dressings as visits. The first fees established by this medical club were half a dollar for a visit; if in consultation, a dollar; rising and visiting after eleven o'clock, and previous to sun-rising, a double fee; cases in midwifery, eight dollars; capital operations in surgery, five pounds lawful money; reducing a dislocation, or setting a fractured bone, one guinea; small operations in surgery, according to circumstances; bleeding, and opening abscesses, half a dollar; extracting a tooth, the same, if the person called on the doctor; if not, a fee for a visit was added. The advance on medicines found for patients, though bought of an apothecary, was enormous; often amounting to three or four hundred per cent. All accounts were to be calculated and kept in hard money; and the exchange, if payment was made in paper-money, according to such agreement as could be made between the parties. The profession was much benefited by these regulations. The physicians became acquainted with each other; party politics were dropped at the meetings: but oil and vinegar will not unite. *They did not love each other*, and all were determined to put down Warren; but they could not: he rose triumphant over them all.

One night, Dr. Rand returned home from one of these professional meetings; and, addressing himself to me, he said, "Eliot, that Warren is an artful man, and will get to windward of us all. He has made a proposition to the club, that, as there are nearly a dozen pupils

studying in town, there should be an incipient medical school instituted here for their benefit; and has nominated Danforth to read on materia medica and chemistry, proposed that I should read on the theory and practice of physic, and some suitable person on anatomy and surgery. He was immediately put up for the latter branches; and, after a little maiden coyness, agreed to commence a course, as he has many operations and surgical cases in the Continental Hospital, of which he is sole director in every respect; and he can always have command of subjects for dissection, without exciting alarm, or being reduced to the necessity of taking bodies from the burying-ground, as most of the inmates of the hospital were foreigners, and no one would scrutinize into the matter. I would have you attend the lectures, which will also save me the trouble of dissecting with you in order to qualify you for a surgeon. Danforth declined, as it was not possible to command a chemical apparatus; and as to myself, who would want to hear an uninteresting course of lectures on fevers and consumptions? so I followed his steps. Now, Warren will be able to obtain fees from the pupils who will attend his lectures on anatomy and surgery, and turn it to pecuniary advantage. But he will not stop there: he well knows that moneys have been left to the college for such an establishment as he is appointed to, and he is looking at the professorship. *Mark what I say, Eliot: you will probably live to see it verified.*" Thus Rand, evidently chagrined. At the proper season, Dr. Warren read a very excellent course of anatomical lectures with demonstrations, and exhibited the various operations of surgery. It was renewed the next year. The fulness of time having come, the corporation [of] Harvard University began seriously to think of setting up a medical institution. At first, the improvements of Dr. Hersey's legacy was deemed a sufficient foundation; but, on the suggestion of the friends to that seminary, a more enlarged plan was determined to be adopted: a professor of chemistry and materia medica, a professor of anatomy* and surgery, and one of the theory and practice of physic, were to be established. But professors were to be sought: a professor of anatomy and surgery, eminently qualified, could be obtained at once. For the other branches it required reflection. It was suggested that Dr. Aaron Dexter, who had attended the practice with Dr. Danforth, the most scientific chemist then on the stage, could easily qualify himself for a chemical professor. Dr. Waterhouse had recently arrived in Boston, or was expected in a short time.

* In the manuscript, a pen has been drawn through the word "anatomy," and what appears like "phisic" written over it.

He had spent some years in London, and had completed his education in Leyden ; was a relation and pupil of the excellent Dr. Fothergill of London, who, it was said, had contemplated such an establishment at this university ; and, although he had died, it was also reported that Dr. Lettsom had succeeded to much of his business, and, meant to fulfil his benevolent intentions. This was only a gossiping story, but was believed, or rather hoped for, by many persons. Dr. Waterhouse was therefore determined upon for the other professorship. According to the bequest of Dr. Hersey, his professor was to be resident in Cambridge ; and there was no provision for a division of the legacy. It was to be for the benefit of a professor of physic and surgery ; but, by an arrangement with the heirs of Dr. Hersey, it was consented to that Waterhouse should reside in Cambridge, the income to be divided in proportions to be determined upon between Warren and Waterhouse. Major William Erving, a Bostonian, and relation of Governor Bowdoin, who had been in the British service from his youth, but had retired therefrom, and having been much acquainted with Dr. Dexter, died in good time, and left an income to the chemical professorship. It was presumed that the attending students on the medical establishment would make up a sufficient gratuity to render it an object to the several gentlemen who had the appointments.

The Massachusetts Medical Society had authority *to examine* such candidates for the practice of physic as should offer themselves for the purpose, and grant diplomas signifying such persons as they found to be qualified for the profession ; but they had no power to give degrees. The medical professors had similar powers, and were quite independent of the Medical Society. The university could give degrees and confer titles upon such as passed examination before their professors. Here, it was supposed, there would be some clashing of interests. The number who had been examined by the censor[s] of the society was not great. It was not long before the two institutions were at issue. None had been examined by the university ; and no degrees, but such as were honorary, had been granted. About the year 1788, George Holmes Hall and John Fleet offered themselves for examination to the censors. Dr. Oliver Prescott of Groton, Drs. Lloyd, Gardner, Danforth, and Rand, were then in the office, — a formidable host. The candidates were students in Dr. Warren's surgery, had dissected much, and were probably far better qualified than any who had presented themselves : in fact, the doctor had bestowed great pains in regard to their qualifications. Dr. Prescott, being hard of

hearing, said nothing ; and I think Danforth's business prevented his attendance, but he heartily joined in putting them down. It was judged that now was the time to mortify their instructor. Various times were appointed for attending to the business, and it was as often postponed ; till the young gentlemen actually became confident that the censors, sensible of their own deficiencies, were afraid to encounter them. At length, the time came ; and they found it a fiery trial. They then became convinced that all knowledge was not shut up in the brains of the professors : they were set aside, and could not obtain certificates. Here the censors thought the matter would drop ; but they were mistaken. Dr. Warren was neither mortified nor foiled. He had wished for an opportunity of commencing the examinations at Cambridge : this was a *good* opportunity. Lectures were immediately commenced, and got through before commencement. This was an unexpected matter, and measures were taken to prevent its having effect. President Willard was applied to, to put a stop to the progress of the professors, lest it should generate serious misunderstandings between the two societies. Dr. Rand called upon me, and desired me to prevail upon Dr. Fleet to suspend the matter ; assuring me that the censors would make such representations as would effectually prevent him from getting into business, and that both he and Hall would be ruined. I was applied to, as I was like to, and did, become his brother-in-law ; but I had no influence over him, and declined any interferences. A public examination was held in the philosophy chamber of the university, at which many persons not of the profession attended. They were thoroughly sifted ; and they afforded much gratification to all who were present. On the Saturday previous to commencement, notice was sent that the censors would meet for their re-examination. They attended ; when a few questions were asked, and they were passed. On commencement-day, not having been informed of this matter, a feeble attempt was made by some of the overseers, that the degree of Doctor of Physic should be withheld. Having been informed of the re-examination, opposition was withdrawn ; and George Holmes Hall, who received the degree of Master of Arts in 1781, and John Fleet *ad eundem* in 1788, were admitted the first in course to the degree of Doctor in Physic.

This, it is believed, has been the only interruption that has taken place between the societies ; and they have mutually contributed to the reputation of each other, and have each done their part to raise the respect of both to their present high standing among the literary institutions of the country.

DIARY OF EZEKIEL PRICE,* 1775-6.†

Tuesday, May 23 [1775].—Passed by Mr. Rea and a sister of Colonel Marshall's, who came from Boston about ten days ago. They are looking out for a house above. Mr. Baker came from Taunton, in his way to Roxbury, in order to get out his furniture. Son Zek visited us.

Wednesday, May 24.—Went down to Roxbury in expectation that some of my effects had been got out from Boston; but was disappointed. Applied to Mr. Fritz, who engaged to bring a load, or part of one, to Roxbury. Left a letter, to be delivered to Mr. Timmins, relating [to] my insurance business. Saw Mr. George Trot, who had just come out of Boston with his family. He informs of the great distress of the inhabitants. Also Mr. Hudson and his family, besides several others, with their families, and a number of women and young children. The small-pox had broke out in Roxbury. One of the soldiers sick with it.

Thursday, May 25.—An exceeding pleasant morning. In the afternoon, went to town-meeting. Heard that a ship arrived at Boston with some of the Light Horse on board.

Friday, May 26.—About eight o'clock, heard the report of a great number of cannon. People's thoughts upon it were various. Soon after, went down to Roxbury; found the firing of the cannon to be on account of the three new generals arrived from England. No Light Horse were arrived. None of my goods yet got out.

Saturday, May 27.—Very warm. In the afternoon, heard the report of cannon. About sundown, the firing of cannon was very quick. Went down to St: Davenport's, but could hear nothing of the occasion of the firing. About eleven o'clock, went down again,

* A brief notice of Ezekiel Price may be found in vol. viii., page 85, of this Society's Collections. It appears that he was Clerk of the Courts of Common Pleas and Sessions for the County of Suffolk; and, for a long time, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Boston. He was elected a member of the Historical Society, April 30, 1793; and died 15th July, 1802, aged seventy-four years. "In private life he was amiable, and in public he was useful."

Mr. Price appears to have resided at Stoughton, in the family of Colonel Doty, at the time of writing this Diary. He probably left Boston at the commencement of the "siege."

† There may have been earlier leaves of this Diary, now wanting.

but could get no certain intelligence. A report that Colonel Putnam had gone with a party to Hog Island.

Sunday, May 28. — Early in the morning, report of cannon heard. At noon, received information that yesterday Colonel Putnam, with a party, went to Hog Island to bring from thence the stock of cattle and sheep and hay there. He was opposed by the navy and army, but came off victorious, and without loss of a man. He brought off a number of sheep and lambs; he also burnt a tender, after taking out her guns, stores, and ammunition; he also killed about twelve of the English horses, and brought away three alive, which had been put on the island to recruit of their fatigue on the passage. It is said this success has given the colonel and the country troops great spirits. In the afternoon, several persons, passing by, heard the report of cannon. It is supposed a new attack is made towards Chelsea.

Monday, May 29. — In the morning, went down to Roxbury, and had confirmation of the account of Colonel Putnam's engagement and success. He had five men wounded: one, it is said, died of the wounds. The Regulars had several killed and wounded,—the number uncertain. Received two trunks, with linen and clothes, and a feather-bed, which Mr. Fritz brought out of Boston for me; also a small trunk for Mrs. Harrison; all which I got safe to Colonel Doty's. A very warm day. Mr. Robert Temple was expected at Cambridge, from Plymouth, to answer concerning a number of Tory letters found with him, to be conveyed to England.

Tuesday, May 30. — The air cool. Appearances of rain. A house on Thompson's Island, and the house and some buildings on Noddle's Island, were burnt last night. Son Zek visited us.

Wednesday, May 31. — A company of soldiers from Little Compton stopped and dined here; then proceeded on their way to the camp at Roxbury. In the afternoon, a report that the country troops had got on Pettix Island, and took from thence a considerable quantity of live stock.

Thursday, June 1. — A shower of rain, which made the weather very pleasant. In the afternoon, Mrs. Jarvis (the colonel's widow) stopt here. Heard concerning several of our Boston friends. Son Zek visited us. Brother John Avery visited and lodged here with us.

Friday, June 2. — Brother Avery returned to Leominster. Mrs. Jarvis set out for Dartmouth. I went down to Roxbury. Could

get nothing more out of Boston. No person from Boston had passed the lines since yesterday morning. Report that the Regulars were cutting a ditch or trench across the Neck, in order to build a bridge there. Two or three ships going into Boston, but could not tell from whence they came. Returned to Stoughton in the afternoon. A company of soldiers from Freetown, on their way to Roxbury, stopt here all night.

Saturday, June 3. — Mrs. Downe (the late colonel's widow), with her daughter and family, stopt here on their way to Taunton. They got out of Boston yesterday, by the way of Charlestown. Report of the day, — that Colonel Putnam had marched from Cambridge with a party to Deer Island; also that one of the new generals was missing.

Sunday, June 4. — Mr. Bosson, from Roxbury, says he heard that a party of the country troops had been to Deer Island, and took from thence several hundred sheep and lambs, some cattle and horses; also that they had surprised and taken two small fishing-boats belonging to the navy, made prisoners of the crews, and dragged the boats over-land to Cambridge. A soldier from Squantum says all was quiet that way. Mrs. Price and Polly went to meeting both parts of the day. Further reports of the day, — that twenty-five tons of powder was arrived at New York, and that some Connecticut people were gone for part of it for the use of our camp.

Monday, June 5. — Passed by several soldiers from Squantum, but could hear nothing material this forenoon. At noon, Mrs. Jenkins (Robert's wife) called here in her way to visit at Colonel Gridley's. Also Colonel Gridley, from the army at Cambridge. He confirms, in part, the account relating the boats being taken, and the arrival of the powder. In the afternoon, Mr. Benjamin Andrews, from Boston: says he came out about three o'clock; that no person was permitted to come out with a horse, or bring any furniture, unless in hand; that some of the pavements on the Neck were taken up, but no trench dug; that a vessel from England had brought a large quantity of artillery and stores for the use of the Regular Army; that nothing had transpired of the intentions of the new generals; that there was no appearance of an accommodation; that, by late advices from England, they were determined to push matters to extremity; that certain advices had been received of the reinforcements, and expected every day; that it was talked among the officers, a sally out would be made when the reinforcements arrived. Heard that the boat which the

Continental Army took, near Deer Island, was put in a cart, and carried to Cambridge, and from thence to Roxbury: two sailors in it, with their oars out, rowing, made diversion for the country people.

Tuesday, June 6. — In the forenoon, nothing remarkable. In the afternoon, Mrs. Price and Polly visited at Colonel Gridley's. One Mr. Collins brought us two letters from Newport, — one from Captain Collins to me, the other from sister Collins to Mrs. Price.

Wednesday, June 7. — Went down to Roxbury; from thence viewed the encampment at Boston. The Regular Army have encamped on all the ground from Beacon Hill to the sea, on the west side of the Common, and in the pastures on the west side Pleasant Street, and fortified all the hills in the town; and there seemed to be as many tents as soldiers. The Continental Army, at Roxbury, appeared in high spirits and healthy; being mostly young men, and many of them persons of wealth, and reputable yeomen. Fritz, in custody of our main-guard, being detected yesterday attempting to carry in meat and a small box of watches to Boston.

Thursday, June 8. — A company of Provincial soldiers, from Tiverton in Rhode Island, passed this morning in their way to the Continental camp. They were a body of strong and healthy young men.

Friday, June 9. — An exceeding pleasant morning. The farmers complain for want of rain. Mrs. Hirst, who came out of Boston last Tuesday, passed by in her way to Colonel Gridley's. She says a considerable number of persons are daily applying for passes, but cannot obtain them; that the town is much distressed for want of fresh provisions; and that the inhabitants are in a melancholy situation.

Saturday, June 10. — This forenoon, nothing remarkable. The afternoon, some soldiers passing to the camp, others going home on furlow. A report that a party of the Continental Army had gone to Noddle's Island to destroy a barn and some out-houses remaining there, and bring off two colts. The ground this way very dry.

Sunday, June 11. — This morning fell a small shower of rain, which made the air very pleasant and agreeable. Report that no person was permitted to pass the lines yesterday, nor men for several days past. The Continental Army burnt a barn on Noddle's Island yesterday. The Continental Army stopt at Roxbury a yoke of cattle belonging to Bowen, which was carting some furniture

into Boston belonging to him. Fritz is released, and permitted to go to Boston, but ordered not to come out again into the Continental Army.

Monday, June 12. — It rained for about two hours this morning, which gave a fresh verdure to the earth. It is reported that the Continental Army had yesterday made an attack somewhere, supposed on one of the islands. Cannon were heard firing from Roxbury. This afternoon, Mrs. Price, Polly, and Mrs. Doty went a visiting at son Zek's, Mrs. Sprague's, and Mrs. Chace's. Sprained my knee in a bad manner, which occasioned much pain, and almost disabled me from walking. Heard that three transports arrived at Boston with troops.

Tuesday, June 13. — My knee so much swelled, and in such pain, that I could not walk without great difficulty. Passed by, in a team, a woman and three children, who left Boston last Friday. She says no men were permitted to go out. In the evening, reported that eight sail of ships had got into Boston, and that several others were seen off in the bay, and going into Boston: they were supposed to be the transports with troops, as a reinforcement to the Regular Army.

Wednesday, June 14. — The swelling in my knee continues so bad that I cannot yet walk without much pain, so that I am obliged to be confined within doors. Reported to-day that the reinforcements were arrived at Boston; also that General Gage had sent out to the Country Army, that if they would lay down their arms, and deliver up Mr. Hancock, Adams, and some others, he would forgive them. A soldier from the Continental Army says that they opened an intrenchment on Dorchester Neck last night, and were at work on it early this morning; that the cannon from the blockhouse at the Castle had killed three of the Continental Army; that the cannon and musquetry on both sides were now playing off. This morning, and at noon, considerable showers of rain. This afternoon, son Zek visited us. The report of the soldier contradicted. The Continental Army transporting great numbers of fascines in Roxbury.

Thursday, June 15. — The swelling in my knee continues, so as I cannot walk without limping: but it is much abated; and hope soon to have the free use of my leg. Quite a cool morning. Miss Becky and Miss Polly Gridley, with Mrs. S. Welles and Miss Colman, called here in their way to Dr. Sprague's, and went up with Mrs. Price and Mrs. Armstrong to the top of the Blue Hills.

Mrs. Becky, in her way down, killed two small snakes. Mrs. Sprague, Jr., with Miss Becky and Polly Gridley, spent the afternoon here.

Friday, June 16. — A very pleasant day. Went down to Milton; heard of a new choice of officers in the Continental Army. Colonel Richmond from the Congress says that Dr. Warren was chosen a major-general; that Heath was not chosen [to] any office, but it was supposed that no difficulty would arise from it. Report that an entrenchment would be opened at Dorchester Neck.

Saturday, June 17. — A pleasant morning. Report of the day, — that six hundred of the Continental Army last night opened an entrenchment on Dorchester Neck; that three thousand marched from Cambridge to Charlestown, and opened an entrenchment there; that no opposition was made to those at Dorchester, but that the Regular Army fired from their battery on Copp's Hill; the ships also fired towards Charlestown; that the king's cannon reached the Continental Army on the hill, and killed one man, and did considerable damage to the houses in Charlestown; that the Continental Army was still at work on both entrenchments. Further report, that, at Cambridge, an account was circulating, that, at Philadelphia, they had taken possession of seven thousand seven hundred stands of arms, and made prisoner an officer of rank. It was said that the arms were for the Canadians. In the forenoon, the report of cannon heard, but no account of any attack. In the afternoon, sundry messengers passed, sent to alarm the country to muster to arms at Roxbury. The firing of cannon continually heard, and very loud. We set out, towards sundown, with our baggage, and reached Randall's, at Stoughtonham, about nine miles. In the evening, saw a great light towards Boston, the country people marching down; the firing of cannon distinctly heard till after eleven o'clock.

Sunday, June 18. — At Randall's. The morning and forenoon, and towards sundown, heard the report of cannon. In the evening, some of the people who went down returned from Cambridge, &c. Reported that the town of Charlestown was burnt by the Regulars that had landed there, and forced the Continental Army out of their entrenchment on Bunker's Hill; that the engagement was hot and furious on both sides: but, the ammunition of the Continental Army being spent, they were unable to oppose any longer; and the Regular Army then jumped into the entrenchment, and made considerable slaughter among the Continental Army. The loss is uncertain

either side. It is supposed that great numbers are killed on both sides. Dr. Warren is said to be among the slain, Colonel Gridley wounded in the leg, Colonel Gardner wounded badly, and a great number of others.

Monday, June 19.—Set out from Randall's. Stopt at Colonel Gridley's: they had received no certain account of his wounds. Got to Colonel Doty's before dinner. Further reports relating to the unfortunate action at Charlestown,—that the Continental Army fought like lions, and mowed down the Regular Army as they approached the entrenchments, until their ammunition was expended, and until a fatal mistake (as I call it) was discovered,—that the cartridges and shot for the artillery proved wholly unfit for them, and could not be used; besides which, an opinion prevails among the Continental Army, that treachery was in some of the Continental officers. A suspicion also arises among them that sand was mixt with the powder, and that the cartridges and ball being thus sent was with design: all which creates great uneasiness in the camp. Colonel Putnam has entrenched on another advantageous ground but a small distance from the other entrenchment, upon which the Regular Army continue their cannonading.

Tuesday, June 20.—Took chaise, and went down to the mills at Milton. Reports there that the loss on the part of the Continental troops of the killed and missing did not exceed sixty or seventy, and that the Regular Army had a thousand killed and wounded. Among the Regular officers killed was Major Pitcairn. The cannonading on the part of the Regular Army ceased firing this forenoon. Heard that the Continental Army had received a fresh supply of powder, and that they were in high spirits; that Colonel Putnam held his entrenchment, and was determined to support it until he was cut off; that all the reports of treachery were entirely without foundation, and propagated by the enemies to the cause, and weak, discontented men, and by some cowards who fled from the engagement, and formed these lies to favor their escape from danger. Heard that old Elijah Collins died at Newport last Thursday. So cold, that we sat very comfortably by a fire this evening.

Wednesday, June 21.—It is said that a frost happened last night. Mrs. Price and Polly went to the top of the Blue Mountain. The sprain in my knee was not recovered sufficiently for me to go. Mr. Sol. Hewes and wife dined with us. He came out of Boston last Saturday morning after the engagement began between the Continental

Army and the Regular Army at Charlestown. Heard by him of several friends in Boston who could not get out.

Thursday, June 22. — The morning very pleasant. Went down to Milton, at the Mills: there saw Captain Waterman, who told me that he had just come from Cambridge, where he saw Captain Cochran, who came out of Boston in a fishing-boat yesterday morning, by whom he was informed that the Regulars had killed and wounded, in the last engagement, fourteen hundred men. Among the former were Major Pitcairn and Major Williams, and a great number of other officers.

Friday, June 23. — A report this morning that three Indians had killed three of the Regular Centinels at Charlestown, brought off their regimentals and a watch; that two transports sailed yesterday from Boston with five hundred of the wounded Regulars, — to what place, uncertain.

Saturday, June 24. — Went down to Milton Mills. Report that Judge Elm. Hutchinson died at Boston of the small-pox; a confirmation of the account of fourteen hundred being killed and wounded of the Regular Army in the last engagement. In the afternoon, heard that two of the Continental Army were shot on the marsh, near Brown's house in Roxbury, by the Regular Centry; misty and rain. The two men killed, it is supposed, were drunk, as they went without orders to burn Mr. Brown's house on the Neck, within gunshot of the Regular entrenchment: they were fired upon by a party of about thirty. The Continental Army carried two field-pieces to the George Tavern on the Neck, fired them at a party of seven of the Regulars near their entrenchment: they all fell, and three or four could not be seen to rise again; well satisfied they were killed. The Regulars fired their cannon greatest part of the afternoon into Roxbury: did no other damage, excepting a few shot struck some of the houses.

Sunday, June 25. — Mr. Bosson says that the cannon which were fired were carried from Roxbury Hill by the Rhode-Island artillerymen towards Lamb's Dam, and fired from thence at Brown's house, where was a number of the Regulars, and they saw them run out; but cannot be certain if any were killed, although it was probable they did kill some, as the shot hit the house several times. No firing of cannon this forenoon; all still and quiet in both armies. A considerable number of carts loaded with timber and plank passed by, going to Roxbury, for the use of the Continental Army, in order

to make platforms for the carriages of the cannon in Colonel Putnam's entrenchments. All remained quiet this afternoon and even.

Monday, June 26. — In the morning, passed several people from Roxbury, Cambridge, &c., who inform that the several Continental entrenchments at Roxbury, Cambridge, and near Charlestown, were going on apace, and looked very able for protection and defence; that some of the heavy cannon were mounted, and that a recruit of powder had been received at the camp; that the troops were in high spirits.

Tuesday, June 27. — I went down to Milton, at the Mills: there heard that Mr. Palfrey passed that way to the Congress. He came from London to Nantucket, and had in company with him an officer of one of the Regular regiments, who was going to submit himself prisoner to the Continental Army; that the packets which came for General Gage in that vessel were taken possession of, to be delivered to headquarters or the Congress; that the people in England were quiet, and seem determined still to push matters against us; and that more troops were coming out. In the afternoon, our worthy brother, Captain Collins, from Newport, visited us. By him we heard that our Newport friends were well. Mrs. Gridley and Miss Becky called upon us in their way home from Colonel Gridley. They say that the colonel's wound keeps him confined, so that he cannot move out of his bed, but that he is in a good way to be cured of it. Captain Collins left us to go to Mrs. Chase's. Heard of the appointment of Generals Washington, Lee, and Schuyler.

Wednesday, June 28. — Nothing remarkable this forenoon. In the afternoon, Captain Collins spent the latter part of the afternoon, evening, and night with us. It began to rain about six o'clock.

Thursday, June 29. — It rained all last evening and the whole night, and continued to rain very moderately all this forenoon. A soldier passed says he heard a number of cannon fired this afternoon since he left Roxbury.

Friday, June 30. — Took a ride to Milton Bridge. Reports of the day, — that fifteen hundred barrels of gunpowder had arrived at New York; that General Washington, &c., was expected at the Continental camp to-morrow; that the Continental centinels at Roxbury had killed three of the Regulars at the Neck. Captain Collins set off from hence about five, P.M., homewards. The fore part of the afternoon, some showers of rain; afterwards cleared away, and exceeding pleasant.

Saturday, July 1. — A pleasant morning ; assisted in cocking the hay. In the afternoon, assisted in getting the hay into the barn. No news from the camps, that could be depended upon.

Sunday, July 2. — Mr. E. Quincy reports that eighteen hundred barrels of powder is arrived at Philadelphia or New York, and that General Washington is to be at the camps Tuesday next. Mr. Bosson says six hundred-weight of powder came yesterday from Connecticut ; that, last evening, the Continental Army fired several shot from a twenty-four pounder from Roxbury Hills, and hit the barracks of the Regular Army ; that, this morning, the Regular Army fired great numbers of cannon into Roxbury Street, which did damage to many houses there, besides setting fire to several houses, which the Continental Army extinguished. One house near Roxbury burying-place was burnt down. They ceased firing about nine o'clock. Mrs. Price and Polly went to meeting this forenoon. It rained plentiful showers from eleven o'clock till sundown.

Monday, July 3. — The plentiful rains that fell yesterday made it exceeding pleasant this morning. Towards noon, very warm. In the afternoon, assisted in raking hay. Son Zek visited us. Reports of the day, — that General Washington had got to Cambridge with General Lee and others ; that some Regulars in a boat near Cambridge River were killed by the Continental soldiers.

Tuesday, July 4. — Went down to Milton ; saw several of my Boston acquaintance ; heard of the exact number of the Regulars killed in the Charlestown battle, — making, in the whole, ten hundred and forty-seven.

Wednesday, July 5. — Assisted in raking hay. Dr. Stedman called upon us, in his way from Greenwich to Cambridge. Heard of the Continental Army taking four horses who had run from the Regulars' entrenchment at Charlestown ; that General Washington had visited the camps, and the soldiers were much pleased with him ; and, by the motions of the Continental Army, it is expected that something of importance will soon happen. In the evening, heard that a Regular (said to be a trumpeter in the Light Horse) came from the entrenchments on Boston Neck, blowing his trumpet till he came to the centinels of the Continental Army, which he passed, and got through Roxbury Street as far as the foot of Roxbury Hill, where he was stopt, then blindfolded, and carried to headquarters at Roxbury ; from thence, blinded, to Cambridge, &c. Heard that Master James Lovel, Master Leach, and Mr. Tilestone,

were taken up and put under guard by the Regulars for some pretended offence.

Thursday, July 6. — Mrs. Price, with Mrs. Armstrong and Polly, visited Colonel Gridley's family. The great expectations on account of the flag of truce which came out yesterday have dwindled to nothing more than a young trumpeter coming out under pretence of General Burgoyne's hearing that General Lee had a letter for him. The trumpeter went back again directly.

Friday, July 7. — Had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Joseph Gardner at Milton. He confirmed the account of Mr. James Lovel and Mr. Leach being prisoners in town, also Captain Fortesque Vernon. Very warm day. Heard that Colonel Gardner died of his wounds.

Saturday, July 8. — In the morning, quite warm. Heard that yesterday morning, at day-break, a party of the Continental Army went, and set fire to the houses and barn that Mr. Brown improved on Boston Neck: by the accounts, it was a very courageous attempt, it being executed within musquet-shot of the entrenchment of the Regular Army; and it is supposed that several of the Regulars were killed or wounded, as several of them were seen to be dragged into the Regular entrenchments on the Neck. Also heard that a private came out of the Regular entrenchments on the Neck, with letters to the Continental Army. Heard that Colonel Hatch's lady and Thomas Hutchinson died in Boston lately; also that Dr. Eliot was taken up for some pretended offence.

Sunday, July 9. — Had a confirmation of the account of the Continental Army burning Brown's house; also a more particular account of the message sent out Friday afternoon by General Gage; viz., to know if the Continental Army would send into Boston provisions for the poor there; to desire that they would not entrench farther on Dorchester Neck, and that the centries of the Regulars may not be fired upon.

Monday, July 10. — An exceeding warm day, and very dry. It is said that two men out of each company at Roxbury were drafted out, and gone to Weymouth, in order to carry a large number of whale-boats from thence to the Continental Army. No cannonading from the Regular Army since Saturday morning.

Tuesday, July 11. — Being at Milton this forenoon, read the newspaper, wherein was an account of the news of the battle at Concord, &c., arriving in England; and that the king had called the parliament together upon the occasion; that Governor Hutchinson had

desired leave to return to New England in private life ; that the Cayrawaga Indians had taken up the hatchet, supposed against the New-England Colonies ; that Governor Tryon was arrived at New York ; and that the account received in England relating the Concord, &c., battle, was that sent by the Provincial Congress. The whale-boats which were expected from Weymouth last night to Squantum were prevented going by reason of some necessary repairs wanting in them : but they were expected to be at Squantum this evening ; and it is said that they are to be employed in going on Long Island, in order to take the stock from thence. The last evening, a party of the Continental Army (or, as some say, two Indians and a Provincial soldier) went, and set fire to the shop or store of Mr. Brown on Boston Neck (his other buildings being before burnt by the Continental Army), without the least molestation from the Regular Army, although within pistol-shot of the Regular Army. In the afternoon, a shower of rain.

Wednesday, July 12. — Informed that last night a party of the Continental Army, with a number of whale-boats, went from Squantum to Long Island ; took from thence the sheep, cattle, and horses on the Island ; also made prisoners thirteen sailors which were on the Island. The sailors belonged to the king's ships. Not a gun fired against the Continental troops, nor any kind of molestation whatsoever. A messenger sent out of town with letters from the Boston selectmen, &c., relating the distresses of the poor. A number of whale-boats transporting by land from Dorchester to Cambridge. One Cobb, a gunsmith, killed by lightning yesterday afternoon at Taunton. It rained about an hour ; very heavy showers, attended with thunder and several severe flashes of lightning. It is said General Washington has requested an augmentation of the Continental Army ; and it is proposed that an addition of twelve men be made to each of the companies employed in the country's service. Towards evening, received an account that a number of whale-boats, manned with Continental soldiers, went to Long Island this afternoon, in order to burn the barns and destroy the hay therein, which they effected, and returned to Squantum, from whence they set off : but, by reason of the carelessness of some of the soldiers remaining too long on the island, the armed schooner and barges sent to attack them had near taken them ; but the great activity of the commanding officer prevented their falling into the enemy's hands. A soldier posted at Squantum, who was firing to cover the retreat, was shot dead by the enemy.

Thursday, July 13. — The firing of cannon heard for several hours this morning. Went to Milton, and there heard that the Continental Army were opening an entrenchment near the George Tavern; and that the Regulars were firing at them from their lines, but did not hear of any being killed or wounded. In the evening, the Regulars kept firing with cannon, which killed one man at work in the entrenchments on Boston Neck. One of the Regulars' Centry, being got beyond his post near Boston Neck, was killed by a centry of the Continental Army. Saw a list of the names of the officers of the Regular Army killed and wounded at the battle in Charlestown, — twenty-four killed, and sixty-eight wounded. Several officers afterwards died of their wounds.

Friday, July 14. — Warm in the sun; but a fresh breeze made it agreeable. Some firing this forenoon, from the cannon of the Regulars' entrenchment on Boston Neck, on the Continental Army entrenching near the George Tavern; but hear of no person killed or wounded. It is generally thought that the Continental Army intend soon to strike a blow on some part or other of the Regular Army's forts or entrenchments. Son Zek spent the day with us.

Saturday, July 15. — Nothing remarkable that we have heard of has happened this day, either as to the Continental Army or the Regular Army; no cannonading on either side, or firing of musquetry. In the evening, Mr. Bosson, from Roxbury, tells us, that by the movements among the Continental Army in getting their whale-boats together, and other preparations making at Roxbury and elsewhere, it is apprehended that an attack is meditating. He says some think nothing will be done till advice is received from England how the late battles are relished there. Advice that Colonel Hatch's lady died at Boston.

Sunday, July 16. — A very pleasant and agreeable day; the weather warm; a fine growing season. The Regulars in Boston omit not this day in exercising and disciplining: they were firing platoons in the Common in the forenoon; also exercising their artillery.

Monday, July 17. — Took a ride to Milton. Informed that the Regular Army were entrenching themselves at the bottom of the Common in Boston; that Thomas Hutchinson, jun., was dead, and that it was very sickly in Boston; that Samuel Sewall died at Boston. A fine shower of rain for an hour and an half, which refreshed the earth very much, and made it extremely pleasant.

Messrs. William Baker, Joseph Greenleaf, and H. Perkins, dined with us to-day.

Tuesday, July 18. — An exceeding pleasant morning. It is said that a party of the Continental Army intend to get on Spectacle Island this night. The inhabitants of Boston are to meet this day, at Concord, to choose representatives to meet in General Court to-morrow at Watertown.

Wednesday, July 19. — Early this morning, set out for Watertown: got there about eight o'clock. It was really very agreeable to see such a large number of my late fellow-townsmen, as were there met together, congratulating each other in getting out of the devoted and distressed town of Boston. In the forenoon, divine service was performed by the Rev. Mr. Gordon, of Roxbury, who preached a sermon suitable to the occasion and the times. In the afternoon, it was proposed to elect councillors, and so form a general court or assembly for the making of suitable laws and regulations for this government of the Province in its present disordered state. The packet-boat, which went express from the Provincial Congress to England with an account of the battle of Lexington and Concord in April last, was returned. The express sent by General Gage with his account of the same affair was not arrived when the other express left England. The news of that battle caused the publick stocks to fall, and threw the people into great consternation. One Carpenter, who last evening swam from Boston to Dorchester, says that it was very sickly in Boston; and that provisions were very scarce in Boston, and the people in great distress. Lost the blue paper bundle. Returned to Stoughton in the afternoon.

Thursday, July 20. — This day solemnized as a public Fast throughout the Colonies, agreeable to a resolve of the Continental Congress. The lighthouse at the entrance of the harbour of Boston burnt by a party of the Continental Army, who went out in whale-boats for that purpose. They were fired at by some of the men-of-war; but do not hear of any being hurt. Heard that the choice of councillors, which was to have been yesterday, is put off till to-morrow.

Friday, July 21. — A pleasant morning. Further accounts relating burning the lighthouse, — that the party, after burning the lighthouse, brought off four barrels of oil, some cordage, and about a hundred-weight of powder; also took seven prisoners: they also fired the barn, with the hay in it, on the Brewsters; brought away several

thousand bushels of grain from Nantasket; two boats, and burnt another; had two men wounded, and suppose they killed above twenty, as their oars dropped out of the boats. It is said a drummer came out of the Regular Camp on Boston Neck, and delivered a packet of letters to the country guards near the George Tavern, and went back immediately: the contents of the letters not yet known. Dined here Deacon Church, and his grandson, Mr. Sol. Hewes and wife.

Saturday, July 22.—Took a ride to Watertown. There had the pleasure of seeing several of my Boston friends. Returned to Stoughton. The reports of the day,—that, by the appearance of the Regulars on Boston Neck, it was supposed they were going to hang some person,—the conjectures were various on the occasion; that a considerable number of the Regulars were transported from Boston to Charlestown,—it was apprehended by some that they intended an attack somewhere; that a supply of gunpowder had arrived at several places; that the riflemen from Philadelphia, &c., were expected in to the camp by to-morrow; that some attack on the part of the Continental Army was soon expected; and, in the evening, a rumor that Montreal was delivered up to the Continental Army.

Sunday, July 23.—No firing on the part of the Regular Army; but all remained quiet among them, as it has done for several days past.

Monday, July 24.—This day very warm. In the afternoon, walked through the woods with Mrs. Price and some others, gathering hurtleberries.

Tuesday, July 25.—Took a ride to Milton with Polly. Heard that eleven ships sailed out of Boston Harbour yesterday afternoon; it is not known what they are, or where bound. A very warm day. It is said nine ships sailed the day before yesterday.

Wednesday, July 26.—Mrs. Price and Mrs. Armstrong visited Colonel Gridley's family. A very warm day. A report that last night a grenadier deserted from the Regulars' encampment at Bunker's Hill in Charlestown, and went to Colonel Putnam's encampment: he had with him his regimentals, arms, ammunition, and accoutrements.

Thursday, July 27.—Several showers of rain this forenoon. Report that a deserter from the Regulars' camp in Boston got to Dorchester Neck, from whence he was carried to headquarters at Cambridge. In the afternoon, it rained several heavy and plentiful

showers : so much rain fell this afternoon, that the water ran in large streams in the road.

Friday, July 28. — Went down to Milton ; heard that three deserters had run from the Regulars' encampment in Charlestown to Colonel Putnam's encampment ; also that an officer of the Regulars, by some means, had been taken at the same encampment. Mr. Kent dined and spent the day with us. It is very warm, though a considerable of a breeze of wind. It is said that the deserters report that General Gage has several times attempted to get the Regulars to go out of Boston, and give battle to the Continental Army, but they have refused to go ; that the Regular Army consists of about six thousand men, and that great numbers are sick. Hear that Carpenter, the barber who swam from Boston to Dorchester about ten days ago, returned again into Boston, was taken up by General Gage, and hanged on Copps Hill last Saturday. That a party of the Regulars had gone to the Eastern country to get provisions and firewood ; and that the people at the eastward were determined to fight them, and had sent to headquarters for ammunition. General Washington resides at Cambridge, General Ward at Roxbury, and Generals Lee and Putnam at Medford and Prospect Hill.

Saturday, July 29. — Fresh breezes of wind, a warm sun, and very growing season. Nothing remarkable this forenoon. In the afternoon, Mr. Bosson, from Roxbury, tells us that advice had been received at headquarters that General Gage had caused notifications to be posted up at Boston for all persons, who inclined to go out, to leave their names at a place appointed ; that the castle was to be dismantled by the Regulars ; that a hundred and six riflemen had joined the Continental Army.

Sunday, July 30. — An exceeding pleasant morning. Reports of the day, — that a party of the riflemen had advanced so near the Regulars at Charlestown as to engage with a party of them, — killed three, and took two prisoners ; that three men out of each company at Roxbury were drafted out, in order to make another attack on the Lighthouse Island ; that several Boston inhabitants were yesterday let go out by water ; that the Continental Army had been in alarm on the appearance of the Regular Army, as if preparing to come out of Boston. I was at public worship both parts of the day.

Monday, July 31. — Yesterday, a skirmish between the Continental Army and the Regular Army near Charlestown : it is said we lost one man, and killed three or more of the Regulars, and

made one or two prisoners. Last night, a brisk firing of cannon and musquetry was heard for several hours. In the forenoon, we received accounts that about sixty of the Regulars came out from the entrenchment on Boston Neck, and by means of the carelessness, indolence, or something worse, of the country guards placed thereabouts, the Regulars advanced with two field-pieces as far as the George Tavern, which they burnt, and then turned back; that a party of the Continental Army was gone upon an attack of the Lighthouse Island; that a brisk firing still continues over Charlestown side. In the afternoon, further advices,—that the party of the Continental troops who went to the Lighthouse Island had returned back to Squantum with the loss of one man killed, and two or three slightly wounded; that the party brought with them upwards twenty marines and two or three carpenters prisoners; also two field-pieces: they were chased and attacked by boats from the men-of-war. News that the people of Georgia had taken possession of a ship, from London, laden with powder, arms, and cash, said to be for the use of Indians and negroes against the Americans.

Tuesday, Aug. 1. — A pleasant morning. Took a ride to Milton; saw a person who was of the party that went to the lighthouse; heard him give a particular account of that affair; and, from the whole account of the matter, it appears to be a bold, hazardous, and well-conducted expedition. The officers and soldiers employed in it behaved with extraordinary resolution and courage. They were first hailed when within about gun-shot of the island; made no answer, but pushed forward, and landed all around. The Regulars fired twice at them; but they soon obliged the Regulars to submit. They then set fire to the dwelling-house, and carried on board their boats what plunder they could collect; and, after putting the prisoners on board the boats, returned back, and, being closely pursued by the men-of-war's boats, got to Nantasket, and there landed. The Regulars suffered in their pursuit, having one barge stove to pieces by the grape-shot from our field-piece, which was mounted on Nantasket Hill: several of them are supposed to be killed by the constant fire of our people upon them. The Continental troops brought with them twenty-eight marines, two corporals, and two sergeants; they killed a lieutenant and several others; they also brought away one Paul White, a Marshfield Tory, and several New-York carpenters. We lost two men and a boat; two schooners and a boat or two were burnt by our people. It is said that a flag of truce came out of Boston yesterday.

Wednesday, Aug. 2. — Nothing remarkable this forenoon. At noon, Dr. Jarvis and Mr. Edward Carnes came here, and dined: by them, had accounts of their seeing Colonels Leverett, Herman, Brimmer, and others who lately came out of Boston, who report that the inhabitants, as well as Regulars, die in considerable numbers with the flux; that the number of Regulars do not exceed six thousand, fifteen hundred of whom are unfit for duty; that the American troops were to begin an entrenchment this night near Lamb's Dam, and it was expected that the Regulars would oppose them; that the American Army was continually picking off the Regular Army's centrys; that the officers and soldiers in Boston were much dispirited.

Thursday, Aug. 3. — In the forenoon, went into the meadows in order to see the mowers at work, which was agreeable. In the afternoon, again went into the meadows, and diverted myself in fishing, and had considerable sport: the fish in the brooks were cozen, trout, and shiners, which afforded a good supper. Mr. B. Andrews and lady, from Taunton, lodged here.

Friday, Aug. 4. — Spent the forenoon in riding to Milton and back. No remarkable intelligence: the two armies have been tolerable quiet for several days past. It is said powder has been received by the American Army from several places.

Saturday, Aug. 5. — The weather extremely pleasant, and nothing remarkable from below this forenoon. In the afternoon, heard that five transport sloops, that were sent to the eastward for wood, &c., had been taken possession of by the people there, and carried into Broad Bay. Wrote a letter to brother Collins, acquainting him that we intend setting out Monday next for Providence and Rehoboth, &c.; which I sent by one Mr. Vose, of and for Newport. A considerable number of whale-boats went this morning towards Nantucket for flour for the use of the army.

Sunday, Aug. 6. — The appearance of a storm. About eleven o'clock, heard several cannon fired. Heard that Major Tupper had leave to go out of the American lines, in order to converse with Mr. Thomas Boyleston, in Boston, upon private mercantile business. In the afternoon, heard that the firing in the morning was from some ships that arrived in Boston Harbour. Two ships arrived at Boston this morning.

Monday, Aug. 7. — Set out this morning with Mrs. Price in the chaise, expecting to meet Captain Collins and sister Collins at Reho-

both or Providence. Dined at Randall's in Stoughtonham; baited at Mans in Wrentham, afterwards at Stearns's in Attleborough, where was Mrs. Cushing and a part of her family, also Mr. Sam Whitwell's wife, Mrs. Winslow, and Miss Polly Vans. Lodged there.

Tuesday, Aug. 8. — At Attleborough. Proceeded from Stearns's; got to Daggett's at Rehoboth about eleven o'clock, forenoon; there dined. In the afternoon, Captain Collins came from Newport: sister Collins could not leave home. We all visited Mr. Bant and lady, Mrs. Gray and Mr. Ez. Lewis; there found Mr. Boz Foster and wife, all from Boston. Drank coffee, and returned to Daggett's, where we lodged.

Wednesday, Aug. 9. — At Rehoboth. From Rehoboth we went this morning to Providence in company with Captain Collins; put up at Sabin's: about eleven o'clock, took a walk abroad, and had the great pleasure of seeing a considerable number of my Boston friends and acquaintance. Mrs. Price dined at Mr. H. Quincy's, and spent the afternoon there. The evening we spent at Mr. Nightingall's. It rained most part of the afternoon and evening. Lodged at Sabin's.

Thursday, Aug. 10. — At Providence. As we could not expect to see sister Collins, about nine o'clock, set out from Providence in company with Captain Collins. Stopt at Stearns's, at Attleborough, and there dined: it rained such plentiful showers, that we could not set out from thence until about five o'clock, afternoon. Reached Mans, at Wrentham; heard of some men-of-war and transports going to Fisher's Island, and taking from thence eleven hundred sheep, thirty-six head of cattle, and a great quantity of cheese. Lodged at Mans. This morning, saw Mr. Cushing and Mr. Paine, two of our delegates to the Continental Congress.

Friday, Aug. 11. — At Wrentham. Last night it rained excessive hard, with sharp lightning and thunder. Mr. Collins sat out about eight o'clock this morning, and took the post road towards Dedham and the several camps. We afterwards set out, and dined at Randall's in Stoughtonham. The roads much wet by reason of the heavy rains yesterday and last night. Drank coffee at Colonel Gridley's, and got to our home at Colonel Doty's towards evening, having had a very agreeable journey.

Saturday, Aug. 12. — Very fine growing season; the earth greatly refreshed by the late rains. In the afternoon, Mr. Sutton and wife stopt here in their way to the upper part of Stoughton. Mr. Sutton

left Boston last Wednesday: by him had considerable intelligence from Boston.

Sunday, Aug. 13. — A very pleasant day. In the afternoon, I attended public worship at Mr. Dunbar's meeting-house. Mr. Swan and Mrs. Lowell dined here.

Monday, Aug. 14. — The report of cannon fired heard this forenoon. Went to Milton. Son Zek visited us.

Tuesday, Aug. 15. — Warm, yet pleasant, as there is a considerable breeze of wind. In the afternoon, heard that the Regulars fired upon the centinels at Roxbury. The field-pieces of the American Army, placed near Lamb's Dam, fired upon the entrenchment of the Regulars on Boston Neck: they returned the fire, and wounded one man in the head slightly by a cannon-ball.

Wednesday, Aug. 16. — Captain Collins called upon us in his way home to Newport: he had been to visit the several American encampments. Went down to Milton Mills: could not hear any material intelligence either from Boston or the several American encampments. In the evening, a repetition of the accounts of the Parliament House in London being pulled down, and of Lord North and Governor Hutchinson flying to France; that the Regulars fired cannon and shells into Roxbury; but hear of no damage, save that a cannon-ball grazed the head of an artillery-man.

Thursday, Aug. 17. — The report relating the Parliament House, &c., discredited. Heard that four hundred riflemen and some Provincials were gone to Cape Ann; the inhabitants there being alarmed, expecting some Regulars to land, and attack them.

Friday, Aug. 18. — The soldiers who passed this way on their way to their several families upwards report the frequent firing of cannon from the several batteries of the Regulars, but hear of no material mischief being done.

Saturday, Aug. 19. — Went to Milton, but could hear of no intelligence of any great consequence. In the afternoon, heard that Ziphion Thayer and Nicholas Bowes getting out of Boston. Mr. Lowell and wife stopped here in their way to Easton. This afternoon, the Regulars on Boston Neck drove into their entrenchment nine cows which were feeding on the marshes.

Sunday, Aug. 20. — In the forenoon, nothing remarkable; in the afternoon, Mr. Hill, of Providence, was here, who left Cambridge this forenoon, and says, that this morning a woman got out of Boston, who brought a letter from Parson Carnes, which mentioned that

the Regulars in Boston intended to come out this night or to-morrow night,—in consequence of which, preparations were making in the several American encampments to receive them; that a deserter came out of Boston last night, and told of an account received at Boston from England,—that the people in England were in great tumult, and that Lord North had been wounded.

Monday, Aug. 21.—The accounts from the American camps are, that all was peaceable last night; but, as they expected a visit from the Regulars, they lay upon their arms, and were prepared to receive them.

Tuesday, Aug. 22.—Early in the morning, set out for Watertown: got there before nine o'clock, A.M., where I met and had conversations with several members of the Council, and House of Representatives; also had the pleasure of seeing several of my Boston friends and others. Dined at Cambridge; and, in the afternoon, returned to Stoughton. In my return home, met Mr. Joseph Otis, jun., on the road, who informed me that Benjamin Gridley was appointed one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, and that Mr. Goldthwait, as clerk of that court, officiated, and did business in court; that several actions were defaulted, two against Mr. Hancock; also that Gridley moved in the sessions that my office be broke open to get the Session's Book, &c., out of it; but some of the other members of the court opposed it, so that it could not be carried; but that Mr. Goldthwait was very angry at my leaving the town, and not delivering the Court Book.

Wednesday, Aug. 23.—Brother John Avery visited us. After dinner, he wrote a letter to General Jones, and another to Mr. Haskins in answer to one of the 12th or 14th August, inst., from him, relating General Jones continuing in father Avery's house; which he set out with in the afternoon, in order to forward to Boston. The American Army lay on their arms all night, expecting to be alarmed.

Thursday, Aug. 24.—Went to Milton. From a hill, saw a large number of ships near the Lighthouse; their destination uncertain. A report that the Spaniards were gone to attack Gibraltar; also that four thousand of our troops were to possess Dorchester Neck soon, and from thence proceed uncertain. Within this week, three deserters from the Regulars have come out of Boston, and delivered themselves to the American generals. One of the riflemen deserted, and went into Boston: 'tis said he was an Irishman, and had a brother among

the Regulars. The Admiral and Hallowell, it is said, have had a battle in Boston.

Friday, Aug. 25. — Heard that four thousand of the American Army were going this evening to take possession of Dorchester Neck. One Mr. Dean, of Taunton, informs that Murray, late preacher in Croswell's meeting-house in Boston, and chaplain * to one of the American regiments, had deserted, and gone into Boston. Three more deserters from Boston got into the American camp.

Saturday, Aug. 26. — Being at Milton, saw, from a hill near the mills, nineteen sail of vessels near the Lighthouse: some of them were large ships: all came under sail, and were bound out. I much fear they are bound upon some evil design. Mrs. Doty's brother and sisters visited her. Informed that General Greene's brigade, this night, was to open an entrenchment on Plough Hill, and that opposition was expected from the Regulars at Bunker's Hill.

Saturday, Aug. 27. — Exceeding warm. A person this morning from the American encampments says that all is quiet there: no firing on either side, except the exchange of a few bullets between the opposite centries. In the afternoon, thunder and lightning, with several showers of rain, which refreshes the earth exceedingly. Yesterday the Widow Parrot, of Boston, passed by: she got out the day before. Mr. Thomas Parker got out the same day with some others. All agree as to the great distress of the inhabitants of Boston for want of provisions and other necessaries. Fresh meat at one shilling a pound, and s[tring] beans two shillings and eight pence half peck; milk, four coppers a gill; and other things in proportion.

Monday, Aug. 28. — Last night it rained hard, with severe gusts of wind, attended with very sharp lightning and heavy thunder. A person passing this road from the several American encampments informs that our forces, last Saturday night, opened an entrenchment on Plough Hill; and yesterday morning the Regulars from Bunker's Hill began firing their cannon and musquetry from their advanced entrenchment, and continued firing all day. Two of the Rhode-Island regiments were killed by the cannon; several others were wounded; also an Indian killed, and two riflemen wounded. This person says he saw five of the Regulars carried off in blankets, and supposes at least twenty of them were killed and wounded. He also informs that he was at Roxbury, and our troops were opening an entrenchment

* "Chaplain" erased by a pen in the manuscript. — Eds.

near the George Tavern, and across the street. He also was at Dorchester, and saw the Regulars on Boston Neck in great motion, bringing cannon and artillery-stores out of Boston; and it was expected there would be considerable firing and cannonading from the Regulars into Roxbury this afternoon or evening.

Tuesday, Aug. 29.—A young man who lodged here last night says he left Cambridge about noon yesterday, and that ammunition-carts were sent from thence to Watertown for powder; that the American camp were in alarm, and expected an attack from the Regulars. Heard that there was firing of cannon and musquetry most part of yesterday afternoon; but as yet no account of any particulars, as no person from the camps has yet passed to give an account. It has been rainy and stormy from daylight the whole forenoon. In the afterpnoon, several soldiers from Roxbury have passed; but do not learn that there has been any engagement between the two armies. In the evening, Mr. Harris came in from Roxbury. He says that the Regulars from Bunker's Hill were cannonading and bombarding the American entrenchments on Prospect Hill, &c. He could see the shells in the air very plain from Roxbury Hill. It continues raining.

Wednesday, Aug. 30.—It continues to rain plentifully, and for the whole day. It is said that two of the American soldiers were killed yesterday afternoon by the Regulars firing their shells into Prospect Hill. In the evening, the rain ceased; but not clear weather.

Thursday, Aug. 31.—The weather cold, with rain; could hear nothing material from the encampments this forenoon. In the afternoon, very unpleasant weather; in the evening, firing of cannon.

Friday, Sept. 1.—In the forenoon, went to Milton; heard that several ships were seen going into Boston. Two men were killed last night at Roxbury by the firing of cannon from the Regulars' entrenchment on Boston Neck. On my return from Milton, heard the report of cannon, which continued in the evening.

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[*Thursday, Sept. 21.*]— . . . and got to Major Whiting's at Roxbury, the upper end of it, and there lodged. At Watertown, heard that St. John's was not taken; but the latest advices from thence was, that the American troops had possession of the ground on each side of it, and intended soon to push into that fort; four and a half tons of powder had arrived from Philadelphia to our army; that deserters from the Regulars were coming out every night.

* Four pages of the Diary, which is in small 16mo, are wanting.—Eds.

Friday, Sept. 22. — At Roxbury; came the road to Dedham; passed Dr. Sprague's house, and got home about ten o'clock; rained all the afternoon. Dr. Jarvis and lady dined here, and were prevented proceeding on their journey to Dartmouth by the rain.

Saturday, Sept. 23. — A very pleasant morning; something cool. Between eight and nine o'clock, heard the report of the firing of heavy cannon in considerable numbers. In the evening, Mr. Bosson came here from Roxbury, who told us that the Regulars fired a hundred and eight cannon, from their lines on Boston Neck and from their floating batteries, at the American Army in Roxbury; and though their shot were well pointed by hitting the breastworks and entering some of the houses, and going through several tents, and falling on the parade of one of the forts, yet no person received a wound. The American Army fired eight shot at the enemy; all of which were seen to strike, and do damage.

Sunday, Sept. 24. — All quiet between the two armies. In the afternoon, some rain.

Monday, Sept. 25. — This morning, set out on a journey with Mrs. Price and Polly to visit father Avery at Leominster; lodged at Waltham.

Tuesday, Sept. 26. — At Waltham; proceeded on our journey, and lodged at Lancaster.

Wednesday, Sept. 27. — Proceeded on our journey, and dined at Leominster with father Avery and family.

Thursday, Sept. 28. — At Leominster; remained at father Avery's.

Friday, Sept. 29. — Remained at father Avery's.

Saturday, Sept. 30. — Remained at father Avery's. By a person from the Continental Army, heard that our people had taken two vessels from the enemy, with provisions.

Sunday, Oct. 1 — At Leominster. In the forenoon, went to public worship at the Rev. Mr. Gardner's new meeting-house, which was the first time of assembling in that house. In the afternoon, went to hear Mr. Rogers, who is attended by a few families in the town at the schoolhouse.

Monday, Oct. 2. — At Leominster; went to Fitchburg, four miles from Leominster; heard that Dr. Church was under guard for corresponding with General Gage: one Mr. Taylor brought this news from Cambridge.

Tuesday, Oct. 3. — At Leominster; spent the day at Colonel Laggatt's: there saw old Mr. Crafts; also William and Thomas Crafts of Boston.

Wednesday, Oct. 4. — At Leominster. Mr. Thomas Crafts and wife dined with us. Mr. Crafts says he had seen two persons from the army below, who confirm the account of Dr. Church's being in custody. One of the persons was Robert Laggatt, who says that a letter (No. 17 of Dr. Church's to General Gage or some person in Boston) was found on a woman, mentioning that some time in December next would be the best time for the Regular Army to come out; that the doctor was guarded by forty soldiers, and that he was to be tried in a few days. If this treachery is proved on Church, may he suffer the full vengeance of the people!

Thursday, Oct. 5. — At Leominster; rain all day, and disappointed in setting out.

Friday, Oct. 6. — At Leominster; remained at father Avery's; took a walk with brother Avery as far as the new meeting-house.

Saturday, Oct. 7. — At Leominster. Mr. John Smith, his wife and son, dined at father Avery's. The principal conversation was relating the treachery of Dr. Church.

Sunday, Oct. 8. — At Leominster; rained most part of the day, which prevented going to public worship.

Monday, Oct. 9. — At Leominster. In the morning, sat out on our journey towards our Stoughton home. Brother and sister Avery accompanied us as far as Mr. James Richardson, at Bolton, where we all dined. After dinner, took leave of brother and sister Avery, and proceeded on our journey; saw old Mr. E. Quincy at Lancaster; lodged at Johnson's, at Sudbury.

Tuesday, Oct. 10. — At Sudbury; proceeded on our journey; dined at brother Jackson's in Brookline. After dinner, sat out, and reached Stoughton about dark of the evening, after a very pleasant and agreeable journey, in which we had the opportunity of visiting a considerable number of our Boston friends and relations, besides many others, and of enjoying perfect health; for all which we bless God.

Wednesday, Oct. 11. — An agreeable day; all quiet below. In the evening, rain.

Thursday, Oct. 12. — Saw a soldier from Roxbury, who says that nothing remarkable has happened in the camp for several days past. In the afternoon, heard that an account had been received at headquarters that Montreal was taken by the American Army.

Friday, Oct. 13. — Went to Milton. Mr. Ben Andrews came from Cambridge this morning. He says that General Washington

had received, by the way of Hartford, an account that Montreal was in possession of the American Army; that they had got possession without firing a gun; that St. John's was surrounded by our army; had sent out terms of capitulation, but Colonel Montgomery had refused to receive them; that twenty or more waggon-loads of provision, going to St. John's, had fallen into the hands of the American Army; and that it was thought St. John's could not hold out a fortnight longer. The Canadians, instead of fighting against us, appear on our side, and against the Regulars. There is also a report, that the Lively, man of-war, is taken by our people at the eastward.

Saturday, Oct. 14. — A considerable heavy frost last night. This morning, quite cold. Deacon Phillips's wife and daughter, Mr. Jonathan Mason, son, and daughter, stopt here: they came from Norwich. Heard by them that sister Collins had been at Providence, and was going to Rehoboth; and that Nabby Collins was at Cambridge with Mrs. Miflin.

Sunday, Oct. 15. — In the forenoon, I went to public worship at Mr. Dunbar's meeting-house. At noon, Dr. Jarvis and lady, and his brother Leonard, stopt here, and dined, in their way to Kittery. In the afternoon, I went again to public worship. Nothing remarkable from the camps this day. Mr. Chace and Mr. Robert Bagnall were here while we were at public worship.

Monday, Oct. 16. — A cold morning. Can hear nothing from the camps below. In the afternoon, Mrs. Price and Polly visited Mrs. Chace. By the newspaper of this day, it appears that Great Britain is determined to push matters against the Colonies to the utmost extremity. Five regiments of British troops, with detachments of the artillery, matresses, a large number of transports, laden with all kind of warlike stores and provisions, together with ten thousand Hanoverians, were to be sent to America. It is said that a number of the transports were already sailed from England to Emden for the Hanoverian troops; also that several men-of-war were soon to sail from Great Britain for America.

Tuesday, Oct. 17. — In the forenoon, went to Milton. There saw Dr. Belly [?] Jones, who came from Boston about three weeks ago. He was returning from Pembroke to Grafton. Heard by him concerning several of our Boston friends, whom he left in Boston. Mr. Leonard Jarvis stopt, and lodged here.

Wednesday, Oct. 18. — By some soldiers from the American Army,

hear that one of our floating batteries was last evening cannonading the enemy ; that, after firing a few times, the cannon split, wounded several men, and the boat sunk, and it was thought several others were drowned when the boat sunk.

Thursday, Oct. 19.—Two persons who were wounded in the floating battery, it is said, are since dead of their wounds. Sister Collins, with her daughter Polly, from Rehoboth, got to aunt Gridley's last night. We went there in the afternoon to visit her.

Friday, Oct. 20.—Sister Collins came to our house. She, with Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Price, visited at Mr. Chace's : she lodged with us.

Saturday, Oct. 21.—Last night it rained exceeding hard, with a violent gale of wind. Sister Collins remained with us.

Sunday, Oct. 22.—Sister Collins remained with us this day. Miss Polly Collins dined with us. In the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Chace and Robert Bagnal visited us.

Monday, Oct. 23.—Sister Collins and her daughter Polly set out towards Cambridge. I went to Milton. Report of the day,—that some men-of-war had cannonaded Falmouth, in Casco Bay, and had burnt down a considerable part of the town.

Tuesday, Oct. 24.—Rain a considerable part of the day. A confirmation of the account of Falmouth being burnt by the king's troops, or men-of-war.

Wednesday, Oct. 25.—The weather cold. At noon, heard the report of cannon which were fired in Boston on occasion of the king's accession. In the evening, sister Collins and her daughter Polly returned from Cambridge, and lodged here.

Thursday, Oct. 26.—After breakfast, sister Collins and her daughter Polly set out homewards. I went down to Milton. Reports of the day,—that an account was received, by way of Hartford, that St. John's had surrendered to our troops ; that Major Tupper had been sent with a party of men to the Vineyard, and had there taken possession of two vessels and cargoes ; that some advices had been received from France relating to their offers of protection ; that General Lee was gone to Newport on public business. Captain Joseph Deane dined here, who says he left Newport Sunday last : there saw Captain Collins ; and he was preparing to quit the island.

Friday, Oct. 27.—Mr. Breck, of Boston, and lady, breakfasted here : they are bound eastward. Heard that Sir William Pepperell's lady lately died in Boston.

Saturday, Oct. 28. — Cold and disagreeable weather. Rain most part of the day. Nothing remarkable from the armies below.

Sunday, Oct. 29. — The weather cold and disagreeable. In the forenoon, Mrs. Price went to public worship. Saw a soldier from the American Army, who says all was quiet there. In the afternoon, I was with Mrs. Price to public worship.

Monday, Oct. 30. — Dr. Jarvis and lady stopt here, in their way to Dartmouth from Kittery. The weather cold and disagreeable. The news of Montreal being taken appears without foundation.

Tuesday, Oct. 31. — Went to Milton. Heard that a sergeant of the Thirty-eighth Regiment deserted from Bunker's Hill to Prospect Hill. The news of St. John's surrendering to our troops is premature.

Wednesday, Nov. 1. — Went to Watertown. There saw several of my Boston friends. Heard that Mrs. Hooper had got out of Boston, with a few others, who report that the inhabitants of Boston were in a very distressed situation, as well by reason of sickness as on account of the scarcity of provisions. Hear that a mob had a skirmish with the Guards in London.

Thursday, Nov. 2. — At Newton. Lodged last night at Captain Fadres, at Newton. About noon, set out for Cambridge. After staying there about an hour, set out for Stoughton. Dined at Brookline, and reached home before dark. Forwarded a letter from Watertown by Deacon Nicolls to father Avery, at Leominster. In the evening, Mr. Nat Greene put up at Colonel Doty's, in his way to Taunton.

Friday, Nov. 3. — Rain and stormy all day. Mr. Greene remained with us the whole day. No news from the camp.

Saturday, Nov. 4. — Cold, yet not unpleasant. All quiet in the several encampments.

Sunday, Nov. 5. — The cold, disagreeable weather prevented our going to public worship. Several persons from the encampments called here; say nothing remarkable there. Mr. Ray and his mother stopped here, and propose to lodge.

Monday, Nov. 6. — A teamster from Roxbury says he heard there that our army in Canada had got possession of some important place there, in which was a considerable quantity of beef and other provisions, also a large quantity of powder, also upwards of fifty soldiers of the Regulars taken prisoners; but I fear this account wants confirmation.

Tuesday, Nov. 7. — Rain all the morning. The weather cold,

wet, and very uncomfortable. In the afternoon, continued raining. No news from the army.

Wednesday, Nov. 8. — Mrs. Price and Polly went to Stoughtonham. Something of a pleasant day. In the evening, some travellers who stopt here reported that several ships had lately arrived at Boston; also that two privateers out of Plymouth had taken two vessels, and carried in there, — one from the eastward, with wood; and the other from Nova Scotia, with provisions; both bound into Boston.

Thursday, Nov. 9. — Wet, disagreeable day. At noon, heard the firing of a considerable number of cannon.

Friday, Nov. 10. — The weather still continues disagreeable. Reports of the day, — that a number of persons, within a few days, had been permitted to come out of Boston, and that public notice had been given in Boston that all those who inclined might have liberty to depart the town; that the firing yesterday was in consequence of an attempt to take off some cattle from Lechmere's Point, in Cambridge, — an opposition being made by our army, caused considerable firing on both sides, — the accounts concerning the matter are very uncertain; that great numbers of cannon were heard yesterday, towards Rhode Island; that our army had got possession of Chamblee, with a considerable quantity of stores, powder, and ammunition, and it is expected every moment to hear of the surrender of St. Johns; that the latest advices from England mention that no more troops were coming to America at present, and that an accommodation was much talked of in England, and that the king had graciously received the petition of the Continental Congress.

Saturday, Nov. 11. — Went to Milton. Heard that one of the vessels, which a few days ago was carried into Plymouth by one of our armed vessels, belonged to Captain Jabez Hatch. He was on board, and had a cargo of wood, with cattle, live stock, hay, &c., for the winter's store of himself and friends in Boston. She came from the eastward. Hatch and the vessel's crew were carried to Cambridge.

Sunday, Nov. 12. — Clear and cold, with much wind. Last evening, a soldier from the American Army stopt here: he said that advice had been received at headquarters, that twenty-five thousand troops were embarked and embarking for America; that part of them were already arrived at Boston; that a number of our generals were up all the night before at General Lee's, on consultation. By another soldier, belonging to Freetown, and going to the army, hear that the houses in Bristol were last Thursday burnt and destroyed by the men-of-war. Mr.

William Sherburne visited us: he says that General Washington had received advice, by express, that St. Johns had surrendered to our troops: about four hundred troops, seven hundred barrels of powder, &c., were in the garrison.

Monday, Nov. 13. — Something cold, yet clear and pleasant. The report of the soldier, relating the burning of Bristol, appears without foundation. The report of St. Johns being surrendered to our troops seems confirmed, with very extraordinary additions (which, by the way, I do not believe), by a soldier from the camp, — that seventeen hundred barrels of powder and five thousand troops were in that garrison. It has been repeatedly mentioned by persons from below, that part of the reinforcements threatened to be sent from England are actually arrived in Boston. Mr. Carnes (a son of the parson's) was here this afternoon: he says that it is reported at Cambridge, &c., and believed, that twenty-five hundred Regulars have lately arrived at Boston; he also says that the Regulars, last Saturday, intended to land a number of them at Chelsea, — having their boats, &c., ready, — but the wind blowing fresh against them prevented their setting off.

Tuesday, Nov. 14. — A very pleasant morning. I set out about seven o'clock for Watertown: there heard that Captain Hatch was before the Council, on his examination, relating his attempting to carry provisions to Boston; afterwards heard that they had permitted him to be at large on his giving bond, with sureties, not to go into Boston, or send any letters or other intelligence there. Advice was then received at Watertown of the surrender of St. Johns, and the account of the arrival of reinforcements at Boston believed. Dined with Mr. Morton, Mr. Hitchborn, and Mr. Molineux, at their lodgings. Got home by dusk.

Wednesday, Nov. 15. — It rained hard most part of last night: the storm continued very violent all the forenoon, also all the afternoon. No news from the army, as no person from thence has called here to-day. Last night, received a letter from sister Collins. Captain Scot (Mr. Dennie's captain) put up here last night, and has been detained all day by reason of the rain and stormy weather.

Thursday, Nov. 16. — Last evening it snowed: this morning it was clear and cold. Mr. Benjamin Kent visited and dined with us.

Friday, Nov. 17. — Went to Dedham. Dr. Church was carried through Dedham by an escort of soldiers, on his way to Connecticut. Returned home in the afternoon.

Saturday, Nov. 18. — Nothing remarkable from the army below.

Sunday, Nov. 19. — In the afternoon, went to public worship ; the weather cold.

Monday, Nov. 20. — Saw a handbill which gave the account of the surrender of the garrison of St. Johns. Visited Colonel Gridley's family.

Tuesday, Nov. 21. — Went to Milton. Heard nothing remarkable from either army. Mr. Joshua Blanchard and wife, who lodged here last night, set out for Taunton. Son Zek spent the day with us. Captain Wormall, wife, and sister stopt here.

Wednesday, Nov. 22. — Last evening it snowed. Cold, yet pleasant. Young Jarvis stopt here in his way from Bedford to Watertown. This forenoon, Mr. William Davis, of Dartmouth, applied to me for a protest, &c., relating his vessel being taken by the enemy, and carried into Boston. Mr. Scot of Newport, with Miss Crocker and Miss Church, lodged here.

Thursday, Nov. 23. — This day is appointed by the General Court to be observed throughout this Province as a day for a public and general Thanksgiving: a very pleasant day. Last evening, brother John Avery, with Mr. John Smith, came here, and lodged last night: they had been to Newport, &c. After breakfast, they set out homewards. They say that it was reported at Newport, and believed, that a number of armed vessels were upon sailing from Philadelphia, to meet some others from Providence; their design, when met, to attack the men-of-war at Newport. It having snowed yesterday morning, and there being ice in the road, and our horse not caulked, we did not go to public worship.

Friday, Nov. 24. — A very pleasant day for the season. Walked to the brook; afterward up part of the Blue Hill, to see cutting of wood there. In the afternoon, uncle John Deming called here, in his way to Colonel Gridley's. Nothing from either army remarkable. In the evening, Mr. Baylies stopt here: he brought yesterday's paper from Cambridge. Upon reading, it appears by the last advices from England that they are determined to carry their operations in America on with vigor; the Empress of Russia offering her assistance; several young noblemen coming out as volunteers. I do not like advices of this nature.

Saturday, Nov. 25. — It being a pleasant morning, I went down to Milton: there saw one Mr. Pearson, who got out of Boston by water last Tuesday. He says that every thing appears very melancholy there; the poor especially being in great distress for want of fuel and

fresh provisions: he confirms the account of Dr. Sewall's meeting-house being improved as a riding-school. Mr. Bosson says that many of the soldiers seem very uneasy at the new regulations of the army, and are determined not to enter again in the service. I hope matters will be accommodated so as to prevent uneasiness.

Sunday, Nov. 26. — Last night it hailed, rained, and snowed. In the morning, thick weather, stormy, with snow, which continued all the forenoon. At noon, saw Mr. Royal returning from the meeting-house: he says, that, last Friday, one of our privateers went out of Plymouth into Nantasket; there cut out a brig, loaded with provisions and stores belonging to the king; brought her out, and sent her to the northward. The privateer stood to the southward: she was chased by a man-of-war, but got clear. Mr. Scot, of Newport, called here: he promised to see Captain Collins, with our regards, and bring a letter from them on his return from Newport. In the afternoon, the snow-storm continues.

Monday, Nov. 27. — Cloudy, disagreeable weather. Could hear nothing remarkable from either army. Uncle John Deming stopt here in his return from Colonel Gridleys, homewards: reported the privateers out of Plymouth had set a ship on fire at sea, belonging to the king.

Tuesday, Nov. 28. — Cold and disagreeable. Went up about two-thirds of the way to the top of the Blue Hill, in a hollow, where Colonel Doty's people cut their wood. In the afternoon, went again up the Hill to the wood place. Heard that a rifleman had deserted from our camp into Boston. Am sorry to hear the enlistments go on very slow in our army.

Wednesday, Nov. 29. — It rained considerable last night. Mr. Royal informs that General Hopkins is gone with a party, in order to bring vessels of force from Philadelphia to join the armed vessels of Providence in taking the king's vessels at Newport. A traveller informs that he heard, from a colonel at Cambridge, that General Washington had received advice of Montreal surrendering to our army; and that Governor Carlton had fled to Quebec, having first destroyed all the stores, &c., that he could not carry with him. Yesterday, heard that a number — two or three hundred old men, women, and children, — were sent out of Boston, and landed at Point Shirley. I went upon the Hill to see the wood-cutters. Went twice to-day up the Hill to the place where they were cutting wood. It has been a very pleasant day, for the season.

Thursday, Nov. 30. — It being an agreeable morning, I set out for

Watertown. Stopt at General Thomas's, at Roxbury: there saw Colonel Taylor, who was going to the lines, expecting to see Mr. Jonathan Amory. Mr. Payne and a number of others had been gone a little time before, with a flag, for the same purpose. Dined at Brookline; and, in the afternoon, got to Watertown. There saw a number of Boston friends; also had opportunity of seeing young Coolidge, who came out of Boston last Friday in the transport-ship, which landed him and about three hundred others—aged, infirm men, with women and children—at Point Shirley. I enquired much after Mrs. Harrison, but could not learn any about her. Mr. Eveleth came out in the same vessel, but could not find out which way he went. Spent this evening at Mrs. Coolidge's, in company with Mr. Read and Mr. Henderson: we all lodged in the same house. Heard that one of our privateers had taken and brought in a brigantine from England, laden with every kind of material necessary for the use of the train of artillery; and that a ship was burnt at sea, belonging to the enemy; also heard a confirmation of the account of the taking of Montreal.

Friday, Dec. 1.—From Watertown I went to Cambridge. Rode down the Charlestown Road, where I could see Prospect Hill, Winter Hill, and Bunker Hill, very fully. Visited Colonel Gridley; afterwards walked about Cambridge, and was very uneasy at hearing that the Connecticut regiments insist upon leaving the army, their time being expired. A number of them put under guard, and a greater number were murmuring at being prevented going home; but afterwards heard that General Washington had been talking with them, and it was said that the soldiers had consented to tarry ten days longer. In the evening, I returned home, and found Captain Collins from Newport, who stopt to visit us, and lodged here in his way to Cambridge.

Saturday, Dec. 2.—Captain Collins set out for Cambridge. Daughter Polly went with me up the Hill, as far as where they cut the wood.

Sunday, Dec. 3.—The weather was so disagreeable, that none of us could go to public worship. Nothing very remarkable from the armies.

Monday, Dec. 4.—Cold, yet very pleasant. Mr. William Allen dined here. He came through Cambridge. Informs that the brig taken last week, loaded with warlike stores, exceeds what we before heard; having on board, besides the thirteen-inch and other brass mortars, brass cannon, two thousand and seventy stand of arms, two thousand broadswords, five hundred carbines, five hundred pistols. All the shells and

cartridges are loaded with powder ; suppose near thirty tons of powder, in cartridges, &c. Also taken another ship, loaded with sea-coal, and English goods. That the soldiers were much more spirited to enter the service again.

Tuesday, Dec. 5. — Walked to the brook. In the afternoon, raw cold. Nothing remarkable from the armies. Hear that Mr. Bowdoin's son is lately arrived from England, who says that matters have taken a turn there considerably in our favor, but have not yet got any of the particulars.

Wednesday, Dec. 6. — Went to Dedham. Heard nothing remarkable that way. Captain Collins from Cambridge stopt here, in his way home. Mrs. Price, having been confined several days with a cold, took a ride out this afternoon.

Thursday, Dec. 7. — Had the opportunity of seeing Mr. Simpson, who came out of Boston last Saturday in a transport-ship, with about two hundred others of the inhabitants of Boston. He says that inhabitants and soldiers there were in want of great many of the necessaries of life ; that they are about seven thousand troops there ; that they were very much concerned about the ordnance brig, fearing she had fallen into our hands (which, thank God, is the case, to our great joy), which they well knew would add greatly to our strength. I inquired after Mrs. Harrison ; but he could give me no account of her. He says that the "Boyne," man-of-war, had sailed for England with a number of officers, passengers on board.

Friday, Dec. 8. — Several soldiers passed from the American camp. Their reports are, that about five thousand are enlisted anew ; that it is talked of sending some shells out of the new mortar into Boston tomorrow ; that a vessel with powder, fifty tons, is taken by one of our privateers, and carried into the eastward ; that a vessel from France, with powder, is arrived at some of our ports ; that a vessel is also taken with lemons, oranges, &c. ; that a vessel, bound to Halifax with plate and other valuable effects belonging to the Tories in Boston, the crew took possession of, carried into one of our ports, shared the cargo, which amounted to seven hundred pounds sterling a man.

Saturday, Dec. 9. — It being a pleasant day for the season, I went down to Milton, and there read the newspapers, in which was the list or schedule of the ordnance-stores, &c., on board the brig lately taken by one of our privateers, and accounts of a number of other valuable vessels taken by the same privateers ; the confirmation of the account of the surrender of Montreal, and the probability of Quebec,

with Governor Carlton, soon falling into our hands. It is also reported that gunpowder, fifty tons of it, is got into some of our ports. Several of the inhabitants of Boston have lately got out by leave from General Howe, who sends them, and lands them at Point Shirley.

Sunday, Dec. 10.—The most part of this forenoon, soldiers or minute-men from Taunton and several other towns above have been passing to our army, in order to support the lines and forts there, in case those soldiers whose terms of enlistment are expired should leave the army, and by that means expose the works there to an attack from the enemy in Boston and Charlestown. Do not hear any thing remarkable from either of the armies below. Mrs. Price and Polly went to public worship this afternoon. I, having a bad cold, was prevented going. The weather is considerable moderate: an appearance of rain or snow. Young Jarvis stopt here at noon: he says our privateers took two vessels yesterday.

Monday, Dec. 11.—Last night it rained. In the morning it continued raining, and quite warm, though very windy. A company of men passed by, going to the army to supply the places of those whose terms of enlistments are expired, and persist in going home. At noon, another company of men, about fifty, passed to the camp for the above purpose: they came from Rehoboth. In the evening, some persons from Cambridge say that one of our privateers, on Saturday last, took two vessels,—one a ship of three hundred tons from England, with a valuable cargo; the other a brig from the West Indies, laden with rum, sugar, &c. They also say that it was reported at Roxbury, and believed to be true, that one of our privateers was taken by the enemy,—a most unhappy matter, if true.

Tuesday, Dec. 12.—The wind at north-west, blew very hard in the night. In the morning, exceeding cold,—much colder than any day we have had this season. Two soldiers from below passed, who say that the report of one of our privateers being taken, and carried into Boston, was believed in Roxbury. About noon, I saw two other soldiers who came from Roxbury. They had heard the above report, but say that the truth of it was doubted by great numbers. Three other persons from Cambridge say they heard the above report; but it was doubted there: so that I am not without hopes the accounts of taking the privateer may not be true. No remarkable intelligence from the army this day. It has been a clear and very cold day.

Wednesday, Dec. 13.—Last evening, several persons from Tiverton, Freetown, &c., inform, that, last Sunday, Captain Wallace's crew burnt

and destroyed, having first plundered, all the houses from ferry to ferry on Connanicut Island; also that they had plundered and burnt brother Collins's house on Brenton's Neck; that they had erected a battery on the Neck, and a number of marines were posted there; that a large number of the Colony men were gone upon the island to drive Wallace and his crew from thence; that our people had taken a lieutenant and some sailors belonging to Wallace. Captain Scot stopt here, in his way to Dighton. Says his wife and family are got out; that Mrs. Scot told him our house was occupied by soldiers: so that I now suppose all left by us there is plundered and destroyed. The Rev. Mr. Lothrop visited us in his way to Roxbury.

Thursday, Dec. 14. — Mr. Lothrop told us that he heard of the burning of brother Collins's house by Wallace and his crew, and believes it to be true. One Mr. Kelton, from Dorchester, says, that, by the flags of truce which have lately come out at the lines, the account of the enemy's taking one of our privateers is true. It was a brig fitted out at Plymouth, commanded by one Captain Mansfield, who, being attacked by a twenty-gun ship, which boarded them several times, and was beat off: at last the privateer was overpowered by their great force, but not before they had every officer on board killed, and all the men to eighteen out of seventy-five; and the brig was afterwards carried into Boston. What a pity it is so many brave men should be slain by those rascals! Mrs. Price and Mrs. Armstrong went to Milton.

Friday, Dec. 15. — Mrs. Sutton passed along about dusk from Cambridge homewards. She says that the people who came out last from Boston, and landed at Point Shirley, have the small-pox among them there; that a person at Brookline was taken with it, but removed. She says it was reported that Dr. Rand of Boston had said that he had effectually given that distemper among those people. The accounts concerning the enemy taking one of our privateers seem to be confirmed. It is pretty certain that a quantity of gunpowder is arrived at some of our ports.

Saturday, Dec. 16. — Two persons stopt here who came from Newport yesterday. They confirm the account of Wallace and his crew burning a number of houses on Connanicut; but they say that they heard nothing of the burning of Captain Collins's house, or any other house on that island: so that we have hopes the account we received of the burning of Captain Collins's house is not true. Mr. Lothrop called to see us on his return homewards at Providence. In the after-

noon, went to Milton. There saw some persons who came out of Boston last night. They say, in general, that matters and things have a gloomy aspect there; that the small-pox was prevailing. The privateer taken and carried into Boston was a brig from Plymouth, — seventy-five men: they were all put on board a man-of-war in irons.

Sunday, Dec. 17. — A wet, foggy, and very disagreeable day. We were all prevented going to public worship. A gentleman from Newport says that not a house has yet been set on fire on the Island of Conanicut; but that the behavior of Wallace and his crew on the Conanicut Island was the most brutal cruelty, that would disgrace the most savage barbarity. Old men, women, and children were drove out of their houses in the night, being obliged to leave their dwelling-houses on fire. Wallace himself shot old Martin while talking to him.

Monday, Dec. 18. — Yesterday was heard a number of cannon fired. This morning, several persons from Roxbury say, that yesterday at noon, and in the afternoon, the American Army advanced an intrenchment on Lechmere's Point, which caused the enemy to fire at them from Bunker Hill, and the man-of-war lying opposite. From Cobble Hill, our people fired cannon at the man-of-war. They obliged her to remove; and, it is said, they have killed one of our men. Wrote a letter to Captain Collins. Hear that several of our shot hit the man-of-war, and, it is supposed, did her damage.

Tuesday, Dec. 19. — In the morning, pleasant. After dinner, went to Milton. Reports of the day, — that, on Sunday, our army fired from Cobble Hill several eighteen-pounders into Boston; that the Regulars fired a few shot from their battery on Beacon Hill towards Lechmere's Point; that only three men on our side were slightly wounded, although they fired on our people greatest part of the day and night; that Captain Manley had taken another prize, laden with provisions, &c., from Virginia, bound to Boston; that the cannon still continued firing at times, and, now and then, a mortar fired, — the shells being seen, several of them, to break in the air; that Quebec had surrendered, and that General Carlton and his garrison were taken prisoners by Colonel Arnold.

Wednesday, Dec. 20. — A very cold morning. Mr. Royal tells me that he heard that General Washington had sent in to General Howe, that unless he quitted Boston, with all his troops, in fourteen days, he would set fire to the town; that a number of waggons were sent from Cambridge to some place for powder. Leo: and Cha: Jarvis stopt

here at noon. Mr. Bailies, from Taunton, says that Mr. Nathaniel Balch was there 'last night. He is lately from London, and reports that the great men in England are against us, but that the common people are in our favor. The enemy continue their bombardment on Cobble Hill from Bunker Hill.

Thursday, Dec. 21. — Last night was exceeding cold ; and this morning is thought to be the coldest we have yet had. Colonel Ephraim Leonard stopt here, and lodged last night. The old gentleman had been below, intending to procure a pass to the lines, in order to see and converse with his son Daniel, now in Boston ; but could not obtain the pass, by reason of the small-pox being in Boston. Hear that the ship-of-war, which was drove from her berth near Lechmere's Point, yesterday attempted to remove there again, but was drove back by our batteries ; that our people fired two sixteen-pounders yesterday into Boston, which silenced the enemy of their firing.

Friday, Dec. 22. — Exceeding cold. It is said the enemy has ceased firing since our army sent a few shot into Boston, which was seen to throw the town into great confusion. Mrs. Blanchard, from Cambridge, stopt here, in her way to Taunton. She says that the talk at Cambridge among the knowing ones is, that some attack will be soon on the enemy, but when and where is yet a secret ; that General Lee, with a detachment, set off yesterday for Rhode Island. It is also reported that Governor Martin is taken prisoner ; also rumored that General Carlton is now a prisoner. Very cold the whole day.

Saturday, Dec. 23. — Last evening, Dr. Winship stopt here. He is from Newport. Says that the inhabitants there had agreed with Wallace, in case he would do no further mischief on the island, to supply him with provisions for himself and crews ; that the inhabitants there were removing themselves and effects off the island ; and that they were in expectation the Regulars would attempt to land, and take possession of that island. Walked to the wood-lot upon the Blue Hill. Could hear nothing remarkable from our army below. Most of the day, appearance of snow. In the evening, Mr. Benjamin Hitchborn stopt here.

Sunday, Dec. 24. — A considerable quantity of snow fell this morning. Mr. Hitchborn was detained with us. The stormy weather prevented his proceeding to Cambridge ; so that I had the pleasure of his company the whole day. He tells me that Mr. Balch says our Boston gentry that lately went to England, were, most of them, very desirous of getting back ; that the people there in general were against

us, and continually threatening to scourge us till they had obliged us to submit. The snow-storm prevented the passing of soldiers this way, so that I could hear nothing from the army to-day; the snow falling in such a plentiful manner the whole day, that the roads are filled and the ground covered, so as to render passing very difficult, and prevent my going abroad, or even to set foot out of the house this day; which gave me opportunity to reflect upon the times, and in particular the unfortunate situation of my fellow-citizens, as well those who were obliged to desert their comfortable livings in the town, and leave behind them, some the whole, and others the greatest part, of their substance in it, as those of them who are forcibly detained in it, and obliged to submit, not only to the insults and intolerable abuse of the soldiery, but to the distress that the want, not only of the conveniences, but, in a great measure, the necessities, of life, must occasion them to feel in a most sensible manner at this inclement season of the year, especially when they have this most melancholy consideration,—that they have a long and tedious season to wade in these distressing difficulties, and no appearance of relief from any, except the immediate interposition of Providence. My own case is hard, and I suffer cruelly by having no source for a future maintenance; but I feel sensibly for the distress of my poor fellow-citizens.

Monday, Dec. 25.—Christmas Day; the weather clear and moderate, and as pleasant as I ever remember at this time of the year. With what mirth and festivity was this day celebrated in Boston from its first settlement until this day! How many of the poor and necessitous of that town received the charity, and were filled with the bounty, of their fellow-citizens on this day! But the inhabitants of that once-happy town are now oppressed, distressed, robbed, plundered, and drove out of it by the iron hand of cruel and arbitrary power. May Heaven interpose on our behalf, and drive these locusts from our good land!

Tuesday, Dec. 26.—A cold, yet clear and very pleasant morning. Mr. Bailies, of Taunton, lodged here last night. He brought from Watertown the Monday's paper, which mentions that it was reported that the Light Horse was gone from Boston to Halifax; that General Howe had given orders for pulling down the Old North Meeting-house, and a hundred other houses; that the soldiery were reduced to half allowance; that they had but six weeks' provisions; and that all kind of necessities were very dear. The papers also contain accounts of Governor Dunmore and other ministerial agents doing great mischief, and causing much distress among the people in the Southern Colonies.

Wednesday, Dec. 27. — An exceeding cold night last night as well as this morning. Young Jos Sherburne and Nat Jarvis stopt here yesterday afternoon, and lodged, and tarried till eleven o'clock this forenoon. By Mr. Sherburne and several soldiers from the army, hear that preparations seem to be making, and great talk in the army, as if the American Army would soon make a push upon the enemy. The bay is frozen; which, it is said, puts our army in good spirits, as they show a great inclination to be in action. Can hear nothing with certainty from Canada. There are several favorable reports, which want a confirmation.

Thursday, Dec. 28. — Three old Quakers lodged here last night; one of them an aged man, who says he came from Northumberland County, in England, about two months ago. He is on a visit to the Friends in America, and, as he says, to persuade them to fear God, and honor the king. Am something jealous he was sent to promote the interest of the ministry, at least among the Friends. Could hear nothing of any consequence from the armies below. Had a visit from aunt Gridley and Mrs. Jenkins: both of them dined with us. The weather had moderated considerably since yesterday. It is said that General Lee has taken up at Newport Colonel Wanton and a number of others, Tories, and sent them to headquarters.

Friday, Dec. 29. — A very pleasant day. Went to Milton. Heard that one of our privateers out of Plymouth had taken two vessels bound from New York to Boston, loaded with all kinds of fresh provisions, among which were several hundred quarters of beef, and a great number of turkeys, geese, fowls, &c., for the use of our enemies in Boston. Two persons came in to lodge: one appears to be a West Indian. He came from the Mole, and arrived about a fortnight ago. He says the French in the islands are much in our favor. The other is a Scotch or Irishman; and, from some speeches I heard he made, suspect he is upon no good errand. If he is a spy, hope they will discover him below. Dr. Sprague, Jr., and lady, and Mrs. Davenport, spent the evening with us.

Saturday, Dec. 30. — Mrs. Price, Polly, and Mrs. Armstrong, set out this morning for Colonel Gridley's. The weather looks something hazy, and as if we should soon have more snow, or some falling weather. Two persons from Providence confirm the account received of taking up some Tories at Newport. They say that five persons of the principal Tories at Newport were on their way from Providence to headquarters; and that Wallace and his crew, and whole fleet, had left

the harbour of Newport. They also say that a person yesterday from Bristol told them [he] heard the firing of guns towards Newport. It is much expected that there will be some discharge of cannon or mortars by our army into Boston on Monday next.

Sunday, Dec. 31. — It rained in the night and all this morning; so that we all were prevented going to public worship. This is the last day of the year, — a year that will be remembered by Americans so long as an American is permitted to have existence on this earth; a year that will be remembered to the eternal disgrace of the present venal, corrupt, and infamous British administration; a year in which many of the sons of America have bravely fought and bled in defence of the liberties and properties of themselves and their countrymen. May the cruelty, desolations, robberies, and murders we have suffered the year past, by orders from the British ministry, be returned on their own heads! But our thanks are due to Heaven for its kind protection of the American Army the year past in a remarkable manner.

Monday, Jan. 1, 1776. — This day begins a new year, which there is the greatest reason to suppose will be by far the most important year that ever happened in America. It is probable that in this year it will be determined whether America will be tributary to a venal and arbitrary administration, or that her sons be freemen. May Almighty God grant the latter, and, for that purpose, continue to smile on the counsels and arms of America. The weather clear and moderate. Great numbers of soldiers returning home, whose term of enlistment expired yesterday. Miss Nabby Collins, with Mrs. Chase and Major Parks, visited us.

Tuesday, Jan. 2. — A pleasant morning. Went with my daughter down to Milton: there heard that a new admiral had arrived at Boston; also another general, with seven hundred soldiers. Mr. Richardson (brother to Captain Scot's wife, who came out of Boston a short time since) says that his sister informed him she saw a cart-load of goods go from my house, and believes the whole were removed before the soldiers took possession of it. His sister Soren also acquainted him that our family now live at the North End. I believe they are at the house uncle Goldthwait formerly lived in.

Wednesday, Jan. 3. — Quite warm in the sun, and the weather exceeding moderate. Great part of the snow which fell a few days ago melted away. The intimation we had last week, that the "Congress" was to send some shells into Boston on New-Year's Day, was without foundation; none having yet been fired from her. I am

much pleased to hear that the several forts and lines are well garrisoned by our American Army, notwithstanding such great numbers have left the army. A number of cannon was fired yesterday from the ships in Boston Harbour; supposed to be in consequence of the arrival of a new admiral. It is said General Burgoyne sailed for England the 16th last month; suppose to come out again early in the spring, with a huge body of Regular troops.

Thursday, Jan. 4.—It rained in the night and this morning, which melted the snow very fast, and spoiled the sledding; but carts pass with wood, coals, and provisions for the men of our army. A traveller passing says, that Tuesday last, a party of seven marines, going to the lighthouse, were taken by a party of our soldiers; also another small party of the Regulars, going to plunder at Nantasket, were made prisoners by our people. Mrs. Jenkins and Miss Becky Gridley, from a visit at Milton, say they heard Mr. Jonathan Amory and lady have got out of Boston. The weather is remarkably moderate for the season, which must make our distressed poor in Boston more comfortable than if pinched by the severe cold usual at this season.

Friday, Jan. 5.—The weather being moderate, I went this morning to Milton: there had the pleasure of seeing my friend Captain Jabez Hatch. We conversed together a considerable time on the times, and the very distressed situation of the inhabitants of Boston. I really pitied his particular case, he having a wife and a number of small children in town, besides an aged mother; as he cannot go in, having given bond that he will not. He has wrote for his family to come out. The account of Mr. Amory's getting out is not true. Not having seen any person from our army, can get no intelligence from thence this day.

Saturday, Jan. 6.—In the morning, clear and cold, with high winds from the westward. It continues cold and freezing; so that it is probable our army may have an opportunity of passing towards Boston soon on an icy bridge. A traveller from Cambridge: says nothing material from the American Army passed that way. The king's speech is in last Thursday's paper. I have not read it; but hear that it is full of his determinations to push all his force to distress the Americans, in order to bring them to submit to the tyrannical yoke his ministers have framed for them.

Sunday, Jan. 7.—A very pleasant and agreeable morning for the season. I walked to public worship, two and a half miles, and re-

turned home at noon. Going to meeting, heard the report either of a large cannon or mortar; suppose, by the sound, it was the latter. Several other reports of cannon were heard by numbers early in the morning. Spake with several persons from the army, who say all was quiet there when they came away this morning. Mrs. Price went in the chaise with Mrs. Doty to public worship this afternoon. The whole day quite moderate.

Monday, Jan. 8. — Thick, foggy, and disagreeable weather: an appearance of snow or rain. Several persons passed from Roxbury and Cambridge this way upwards, of whom I enquired as to the firing yesterday; but none of them had heard any firing of guns. Mr. Royal tells me he heard in the forenoon, that, on Friday last, great firing of cannon was heard towards Newport; and it is supposed, by persons who have travelled from that way, that there has been an engagement on that island; also that our troops had broke ground on Dorchester Neck, or were preparing to do it.

Tuesday, Jan. 9. — Early in the morning, the wind at north-west: a very heavy gale for several hours, with rain. A traveller from Easton says, that, last evening and night, the reports of a great number of cannon were heard there. We heard nothing of it here. A soldier from the camp at Roxbury says, that, last evening, a party of our army went, burnt, and destroyed between twenty and thirty houses lying near Bunker Hill, and within reach of the enemy's guns, and improved by them as barracks, &c.; brot off nine men prisoners; others say but five, with one woman. As there was a considerable firing on both sides, it is supposed we killed a number of the enemy; but not one of our army was either killed or wounded, as we can learn. In the afternoon, the wind at about west: an exceeding heavy gale.

Wednesday, Jan. 10. — The north-west wind blew in such violent gusts last night, that made the house and bed shake. The wind continues very high, and it is severe cold; which has made the fireside much more comfortable the whole day than to be abroad in the blustering wind and nipping cold, especially as I have no employ to call me out of the house. Several soldiers from the army below confirm the account received yesterday of our troops burning the buildings at Charlestown; which I find is the mill-house there, and the buildings near to it. It gave me much pleasure to see several small parties of the new recruits going down to join our army.

Thursday, Jan. 11. — Went down to Milton. Could hear nothing

remarkable from the American Army. It is reported that Colonel Henry Knox is on his return from Crown Point ; got back as far as Worcester, and has with him a number of brass cannon and other ordnance-stores, and was expected at Cambridge last night with his artillery. Mr. William Bant called here on his way to the army, &c. Son Zek spent the day with us. Mrs. Price, Polly, &c., went home with Zek in the chaise. The weather threatens snow or rain soon.

Friday, Jan. 12.—A light snow fell in the night. The weather is moderate, and the morning agreeable for the season. Towards noon, it began to grow cold. Mrs. Gridley and daughter Beckey stopt here, in their way to Cambridge to visit Scar Gridley, who, they hear, is dangerously ill. A soldier from the army below says that nothing material has happened there within a day or two past, except that he heard Colonel Knox was on his return to Cambridge, and that a number of cannon had reached there, which Colonel Knox sent before him. It is cloudy, and has the appearance of more foul weather soon.

Saturday, Jan. 13.—Last night was quite cold ; this morning, clear and cold. At noon, and in the afternoon, clear and moderate. Several soldiers from below say that all has been quiet in the army since the burning of the houses at Charlestown. It seems we killed one soldier on the spot, and took prisoners five others, with a woman ; and it is supposed seventeen other soldiers or carpenters were burnt in one of the houses. Mr. Royal tells me that one of the sergeants sent on the above expedition ran back, and has since been tried, and ordered to be shot for cowardice. By advices from Canada, I think Governor Carlton's head is pretty near the noose : so that we may hope to see him soon at headquarters.

Sunday, Jan. 14.—Last evening, Mr. Crane, the representative, informed me he was just from Watertown ; that advice was received there of the arrival of a vessel from England, which brought intelligence that some of the great men who had been against us were turned in our favor ; that Hutchinson was hissed in the public streets ; and that it was thought conciliatory measures would yet take place. He also said a vessel from the West Indies, with fifty tons of powder, was expected every day by the committee who sent her ; that Knox, with the cannon, was at Springfield. Dr. Jarvis stopt, and dined here. In the afternoon, Mrs. Price and Polly went to meeting. An appearance of a snow-storm.

Monday, Jan. 15. — The militia-men, who inlisted to supply the places of those soldiers whose inlistments had expired, are now returning home, except those of them who inlisted anew for the year; but, it is said, the lines are well supported by those of the new establishment. Two travellers from Rehoboth say, that, last Friday, Wallace and his crew landed on Prudence Island, and, besides burning eight or nine houses, killed several of the inhabitants; that, on Saturday and yesterday, they heard a number of cannon fired; and last night they saw a great light towards Rhode Island, but heard nothing of the occasion of it. Disagreeable weather all the forenoon. In the afternoon, a light snow, and stormy.

Tuesday, Jan. 16. — Went down to Milton. Met several parties of soldiers, — some going from, others returning to, the army. Colonel Ephraim Leonard, of Norton, stopt here, in his way from Roxbury home. He had been down expecting to see his son Daniel at the lines; but was advised not to go, as he never had the small-pox: but his son-in-law, who was with him, went to the lines, and saw Daniel, from whom he heard of Daniel and George Leonard's families getting well through with the small-pox in Boston. I hear, that, every Tuesday, a flag of truce goes from Roxbury to the lines, in order to carry in letters and meet persons there. Captain Jabez Hatch, in his way from Taunton home, stopt, and lodged here.

Wednesday, Jan. 17. — Captain Hatch informs me that he heard at Taunton, the Continental Navy at Philadelphia, consisting of a ship of thirty-six guns, and two others, had sailed from thence; but where bound, uncertain. A soldier from Dorchester says the army was alarmed last night, apprehending the Regulars were coming out. Another soldier from Roxbury confirms the same account. At noon it hailed; afterward it snowed. In the afternoon, friend Hacker stopt here, in his way home. He says that only one man killed, and one wounded, at Providence; that all was quiet at Newport on Sunday last.

Thursday, Jan. 18. — The morning clear and cold. Having nothing to call me abroad, I employed my time this forenoon in preparing letters to send into Boston to Mr. Caleb Blanchard, and some others, relating my affairs there. In the afternoon, Mr. Royal called upon us, and informed that he had just been told, that, at Roxbury, advice had been received that General Montgomery had attempted to take Quebec by storm, but was defeated, with the loss of two hundred men killed. Should this news be confirmed, it will be a

melancholy and unfortunate event, and, I am fearful, will be attended with fatal consequences.

Friday, Jan. 19. — About half an hour before daylight, I awaked, and heard the noise of the shaking of the brass drops on an old chest of drawers in the bed-chamber, and also felt the shaking of the bed. The noise ceased a second or two, and was then repeated. As I could not hear the noise of any person up, nor the least wind abroad, I concluded it to be an earthquake, and waked Mrs. Price, who also heard the same noise, and was of the same opinion. The noise lasted about one minute from the time I awaked. As I have not heard any person say any thing of the above occurrence, perhaps the noise and shaking may be imputed to another cause. Every person I have conversed with from the army tells of having heard the sad report of yesterday; so that I fear it is true. Quite a cold day.

Saturday, Jan. 20. — The weather clear and cold; but exceeding good travelling. I went to Milton, and there met young Captain Job Prince. He came from Norwich. Tells me that Mr. Benjamin Clark, and his brother Christopher and wife, and Mrs. Cutler and some of her family, are there. He is down with intention to see or hear of his father at the lines. Upon enquiry into the late intelligence from Canada, cannot get any certain intelligence of the particulars of that very unfortunate affair. So far is certain, — that General Montgomery is killed, and Colonel Arnold wounded. Many others are killed and wounded in their attempt to storm Quebec. It is said that a re-inforcement is gone from the southward to their relief.

Sunday, Jan. 21. — In the morning, the weather clear and cold. At noon, looked cloudy, and appearance of snow, so that none of us went to public worship. Not a single traveller has stopped here this day, neither have I had opportunity to speak to any in the road: so that I could not obtain any intelligence from either of the armies below, or from any other quarter. In the evening, a traveller from the westward; says that troops are raising that way, to re-enforce our army in Canada.

Monday, Jan. 22. — Went down to Roxbury; waited on General Ward, and gave to him, for perusal, several letters, which I had prepared to send into Boston, — two to Caleb Blanchard, one to Colonel Goldthwait, and one to Mr. Timmins. The general promised me they should go in by the flag to-morrow. The general acquainted me that he understood a considerable number of soldiers were set off from the

southward and westward, to re-enforce our army in Canada. Returned home in the afternoon. The weather moderate, and excellent travelling.

Tuesday, Jan. 23. — Walked abroad this morning, about two miles : it was very moderate and pleasant. At noon, Miss Nabby Collins and Miss Peggy Cushing, attended by Major Parks, stopped and dined with us. Mr. Parks went to the top of the Hill. After dinner, they set out for Colonel Gridley's. Miss Cushing tells me that her father is returned from the Continental Congress, and resides with his family at Dedham. I hear that orders are going out for further re-enforcements to recruit our army. A mill is about erecting in this town, for the manufacturing of powder.

Wednesday, Jan. 24. — Exceeding pleasant for the season. Captain John Dean called here in his way to Swansey. He says that he came out of Boston last Saturday ; that the small-pox had almost got through the town, and had been very favorable ; that about fifty persons came out with him in a transport, and landed at Point Shirley ; that several persons were ordered out of town as disaffected, among whom were Mr. Samuel Jarvis, Captain Andrew Symmes, Captain Joseph Hood, &c. ; that Mr. Jonathan Amory did not intend to come out, as they would not let him bring out his effects ; that Mr. C. Blanchard was well ; that two regiments, with General Clinton, were going to Virginia ; that the old North Meeting-house and a number of other houses were pulled down for fuel ; that Dr. Cooper's meeting-house had soldiers in it. Miss Collins, Miss Cushing, and Major Parks, on their return from Colonel Gridley's, stopped and dined here.

Thursday, Jan. 25. — Last evening, Captain Crocker stopt here in his way to Taunton. He came out of Boston the 2d December last : informs that Nathaniel Hatch, Esq., is D. Judge, and young Skinner D. Registrar, of the Admiralty ; that Skinner is in my office. It is said Captain Manley has taken a large ship bound from England to Boston, with a considerable sum in cash on board ; also blankets and soldiers' clothes in abundance. I hear the Rev. Mr. Hunt, late minister at Dr. Sewall's meeting-house in Boston, died last month at Northampton. Major Deshon and Elias Parkman came out in the vessel with Captain Dean from Boston. In the afternoon, walked up the Hill to wood-lot. It has been quite a moderate day. Son Zek spent the day with us.

Friday, Jan. 26. — By yesterday's newspaper, it appears that the Duke of Grafton, with some other noble lords, appeared as advocates

for America in the present session of Parliament. In the paper was the speech of Mr. Wilkes in Parliament: it was sensible and spirited, and touched upon American affairs with a firmness becoming a warm advocate, and friend to America. A brig belonging to Lewis Gray, from Ireland to Boston, laden with butter, beef-tongues, tripe, vinegar, cheese, potatoes, and a number other necessary and comfortable articles for the Tories in Boston, is taken and brought in by one of our privateers. It has snowed most part of the day, so that we have no intelligence from the armies below: however, are well satisfied they are very quiet. Son Zek remained with us all day.

Saturday, Jan. 27. — A clear and cold day. Went down to Milton. Heard that brother John Avery was at Watertown; also that one of our privateers at Plymouth had taken and carried in there two vessels laden with provisions for the army at Boston; also that the privateer had an engagement with one of the tenders, and fought a considerable time; that General Lee was gone to New York, and that forces were raising in Connecticut to go to New York. It is supposed they intend to attack the king's ships at New York.

Sunday, Jan. 28. — Cold and clear. None of us went to meeting this morning, it being uncomfortable by reason of the cold. In the afternoon, Mrs. Price went to public worship. Yesterday afternoon, Madam Belcher's house in Milton was destroyed by fire: I hear she saved her furniture and effects. I have not seen any person from the army below; so that we can learn no intelligence from thence: believe all to be pretty quiet there. It continues cold, and suppose it will be a cold night.

Monday, Jan. 29. — It was extreme cold last night. The cold continued severe the whole day. The carting being extraordinary good, great number loads of wood, coal, and other necessary articles, passed to our army. Not having seen any person from below, could get no intelligence from thence this day. In the afternoon, wrote letters, — one to Colonel Hatch, another to Caleb Blanchard, — in order to send into Boston to-morrow.

Tuesday, Jan. 30. — Went down to Roxbury; delivered my letters to Mr. Ward, aide-de-camp, who was just going to despatch the flag to the lines. Miss Patty Goldthwait, Mrs. Forbes, and two other ladies, besides a number of gentlemen, went with the flag. At the lines were Captain Job Prince, Mr. Laughton, Mr. Timmins, Lewis Gray, and a number of others. When the flag returned, I received two letters from Boston, — one from Mr. Caleb Blanchard, the other from sister.

Goldthwait nor Timmins sent any answers. In the afternoon, I returned home: it snowed great part of the way home. Waited on General Thomas: could learn nothing new. A regiment or two from Cambridge was about marching to Dorchester. There seemed to be no appearance of a sudden attack from any quarter.

Wednesday, Jan. 31. — It rained great part of the night, which carried off most of the snow and ice. The weather very moderate. By the newspapers, it appears that the Address of the Commons to the king approves of all his measures against America, and promises to aid and support him in his further intentions to murder, oppress, and distress the Americans: it also appears that forty ships of war are ordered to be got ready to send to America, to distress our trade, and assist the Regular Army in their butchery and desolation of our people and towns. The firing of guns was heard for several hours to-day.

Thursday, Feb. 1. — The weather very moderate. A thaw, which has melted the ice and snow, so as fills the roads with water, and makes them miry. In the morning, the firing of cannon was heard for a considerable time. My curiosity led me to Milton, to know the cause: there found it to be a large ship going out, — supposed for England, — with some officers of rank on board. Met great numbers of the militia returning home; others going down to join the army. Mr. Robert Pierpoint was at Milton: he tells me that it was reported at Roxbury, one of the king's fourteen-gun men-of-war was taken at the southward; also that a store-ship from England, with forty tons of gunpowder on board, with a variety of other stores, was taken, and carried into some of our ports at the southward. Pray these reports may be true.

Friday, Feb. 2. — In the morning, a light snow; afterwards cleared away, and became quite cold. No travellers this forenoon that could inform of any news from any quarter. One Mr. Tyler lodged here last night. He says that it was reported and believed at Taunton, the account of the forty tons of gunpowder fallen into our hands. But Mr. Royal says that one Captain Curtis, just from New York, tells that he never heard any thing about the man-of-war or the powder being taken: however, I will yet hope these reports are true. Although great numbers of the militia, who a month ago went down to re-enforce the lines, [have gone home?] it is said that a sufficient number of soldiers yet remain there, and that others are daily coming in. I hear Admiral Graves is gone to England; sailed yesterday.

Saturday, Feb. 3. — It is more moderate weather to-day than yester-

day. Mr. Royal gives the report of the morning, — that Colonel Arnold still holds the lower town at Quebec; that he had received some re-enforcements; that the garrison at Quebec had but one month's provisions; that Guy Johnson, with one thousand men, was gone with intention to fall on the back of Colonel Arnold, but that General Schuyler had followed Johnson with three thousand troops, came up with, killed, and took him and all his men; also that one of the king's ships had drove Captain Manley's privateer on shore, but he, his crew, and stores were saved. Mr. Enoch Brown, from Cambridge, confirms the account of taking the fourteen-gun man-of-war.

Sunday, Feb. 4. — Clear and cold. A light snow fell in the night. No travellers have stopped, or even passed, this morning, that I have seen; so that we have no intelligence from any quarter. None of us went to meeting in the morning, by reason of the cold. In the afternoon, Mrs. Price went to public worship. Passed by some soldiers, who came from Connecticut, on their way to the army. They say that a detachment of soldiers, some time ago, marched from Connecticut to strengthen the American Army with Colonel Arnold; another detachment was gone with General Lee to New York; and they are very hearty in that Government in enlisting for the American Army at Cambridge.

Monday, Feb. 5. — Remains clear and cold. Dr. Roberts tells me that John Gray informs him he dined, in company with forty other New-England men, at Governor Hutchinson's, in England; that Hutchinson said orders were sent to Boston to let all the inhabitants who desired it come out, except only a very few; that it was believed the troops at Boston would quit the town, but not before they had burnt all the houses in it, and go from thence to some other place; that the Tories at New York had spiked up the cannon there; that Governor Tryon had retreated on board of an armed ship in New-York Harbor. At noon, Mr. Royal came in, and says that there is now, and for two hours has been, a smart cannonading somewhere or other. Young Bartlet, from Cambridge, says he has heard no guns fired this morning, or since he came away. Another person from below says that he did not hear any guns fired; so that the noise in Mr. Royal's ears probably proceeded from some other cause. It has been a very cold day.

Tuesday, Feb. 6. — Exceeding cold; but, as I expected letters out of Boston by the flag which now goes to the lines, went to Roxbury, and sent in a letter to Mr. Blanchard by the flag, and received one

from him on its return, which gave me much satisfaction, as by it I heard that my books and papers in the office were safe, and to be delivered that day to my friend Blanchard. Mr. S. A. Otis, William Davis and son, and a number others of my Boston friends, were at Roxbury. Returned home before sunset. A soldier at Roxbury broke out with the small-pox.

Wednesday, Feb. 7. — Cold and uncomfortable. Great quantities of wood and charcoal and hay going to Roxbury for the use of our army. It is said that the army is now well supplied with those articles, they having a considerable quantity of each of those articles lodged together at Roxbury. A report that two more transport-ships from England, laden with all kinds of provisions for the use of the army at Boston, are taken at the southward. A number of recruits for the new army passed to Roxbury. Honorable James Pitts, Esq., died at Dunstable.

Thursday, Feb. 8. — The weather considerably moderated. Colonel Doty and Mrs. Doty went in my chaise to Easton to attend the funeral of her brother, Captain Williams, who was taken sick on his way home a few days ago, and died. 'At noon it snowed, and continued till about three o'clock. In the afternoon, quite moderate. Nothing remarkable from the army below. Several persons heard cannon fired last evening, but cannot learn from what quarter they were fired. Soldiers continue passing for the re-enforcement of our army. Wrote a letter to Mr. Nat Greene, desiring him to send me a part of the moneys due on his note to me.

Friday, Feb. 9. — It rained this morning, which caused a considerable thaw, and makes the weather very moderate for the season. Sent Mr. Blanchard's letters to Taunton by Mr. Crocker. Young Jarvis, from Cambridge, says that he heard nothing remarkable there; so that all at present is quiet between the two armies. Hear that advice is received at Cambridge that re-enforcements are on their march for the relief of our forces in Canada.

Saturday, Feb. 10. — It rained exceeding hard great part of last night. In the morning, continued raining, which makes the roads very miry and the travelling uncomfortable. Mr. Jos Russel and Mr. Nat Greene stopped here in their way to Taunton. Report that a gentleman from Canada, in about ten days, says that our army there was much dispirited before the arrival of the re-enforcements, but, after that, they were in good spirits; that the walls of Quebec were so high and well fortified, that our army did not expect before April to be able to batter them so as to enter; that the garrison at Quebec would soon be

in want of bread; that some person out of Boston said the motions of the Regular Army appeared as if they would quit town.

Sunday, Feb. 11. — A cold, blustering day. Mrs. Price went to meeting in the afternoon. Not a single traveller has stopt here, neither have I seen one, to inquire this day of any intelligence from any quarter, nor have I heard of any guns being fired; so that I suppose all is quiet between the armies below. It continued cold the whole day. Mr. Royal visited me in the afternoon. Mr. Sutton, who married Mr. Winter's (the blacksmith) daughter, is dead at Dedham.

Monday, Feb. 12. — Clear and very cold. Walked abroad, and met several small companies of the militia who are enlisted for two months, and going to re-enforce our armies below. Find, by the last papers, the account of our American friend, Mr. Sayer, being committed to the Tower on pretence of high treason, but he was afterwards admitted to bail; that the Duke of Grafton had joined the minority; that the minority in both houses of Parliament increases very fast; that Captain Manley's vessel was refitting, and near ready for another cruise; that eight or ten of the provision-ships from London, bound to Boston, were blown off the coast, and got to Antigua; that it was on the attack of the lower town at Quebec that our brave troops had the unfortunate repulse.

Tuesday, Feb. 13. — Went to Roxbury: there saw Mr. Payne, Deacon Storer, Mr. Samuel Jarvis, and a number of other Boston inhabitants, who were just setting off with the flag to the lines. Waited their return, but received no letters from Boston. Dined in company with the above gentlemen and a number of others. By the flag, heard of the death of Colonel Jones of Weston, and Mrs. Hugh Tarbut. Returned home in the evening. A pleasant day, and had a very agreeable time.

Wednesday, Feb. 14. — It snowed all the morning. Mr. Benjamin Andrews stopped here in his way to Taunton: he says that the Regulars from the Castle landed at Dorchester Point, and set fire to the houses there this morning, just before daylight. A soldier from Roxbury says that the Regulars, when they landed at Dorchester Point, besides burning the houses there, took seven of our soldiers prisoners, who were placed as centries there. The day before yesterday, a soldier deserted from Dorchester to the Regulars. Several of the general officers were on Dorchester Neck, and saw the deserter go off.

Thursday, Feb. 15. — In the morning, set out for Watertown: dined there, and spent the day in company with a number of my Boston

friends. The affair at Dorchester Point was this: A party of the Regulars from Boston, and another party from the Castle, set off at the same time on the ice, and landed on Dorchester Neck, with an intention to encircle and take a party of our army posted there; but our party discovered them, and retreated, and got from them: however, they took a sergeant and four or five men, who were a picket-guard on the Point, then set fire to the houses,—two or three of them,—and retreated immediately, and got off before any of our army could reach them. Lodged at Watertown.

Friday, Feb. 16, at Watertown.—Being at Watertown, heard several reports,—that General Carlton, being in want of wood for his garrison at Quebec, issued out a large detachment of his troops to obtain it; Colonel Arnold, with his small army in the lower town, attacked them, drove them into the garrison, killed twelve, and took prisoners fifteen of the Regulars; that nine hundred American soldiers were met, just upon joining Colonel Arnold's army; that a vessel was arrived at the southward, from France, with sixty tons of saltpetre, fifteen tons of gunpowder, and thirteen hundred firearms; that three hundred tons of shells were purchased at New York, and soon expected at our camps. It seems to be the prevailing opinion among the officers, that our army will soon attack Boston.

Saturday, Feb. 17.—Last evening, returned home from Watertown. Captain Collins was here yesterday, in his way home. Brother John Avery set out from Cambridge last Thursday morning, in company with Mr. Jos. Henderson, for Philadelphia. I hear he is gone for cash, to carry on the building of the ships-of-war at Newbury, &c. Heard at Watertown of the death of Mr. Andrew Oliver, jeweller; also of one of the Halls, printer, at Cambridge,—the other lies dangerously ill. Mr. Chase and Dr. Sprague, Jr., visited me this afternoon. Mr. Chase tells me they have not four tons of powder in all the magazines at Roxbury; but they soon expect a supply, and then something will be done.

Sunday, Feb. 18.—A very cold day. None of the family went to public worship this morning. In the afternoon, I went to meeting. No intelligence of any thing material from either army this day.

Monday, Feb. 19.—Clear and cold. Foster and Houghton came in the evening, and reported that a person of rank, a foreigner, stopped yesterday at Bracket's, in Braintree, going to headquarters. A soldier came in afterwards, and told about the same person being at Roxbury. Conjectures about him are various at present.

Tuesday, Feb. 20. — The weather continues cold and clear. All seems very quiet in the armies below: no remarkable intelligence from thence this day.

Wednesday, Feb. 21. — The weather considerably moderated. Went down to Milton: saw Mr. W. Spooner, Mr. Hitchborn, and some other friends. Heard that there was some accounts received of a proposed accommodation between Great Britain and the Colonies. Also heard that a gentleman from Germany, Prussia, or some other foreign place, was at headquarters: he is said to be adjutant-general to the King of Prussia, and visiting by way of speculation.

Thursday, Feb. 22. — The weather very disagreeable. It rained most part of the day. Employed myself the whole day in writing.

Friday, Feb. 23. — Went to Milton, and from thence to Braintree: there saw Mr. Cleverly, Mr. Church, Mr. Trot, and others, Bostonians. Visited Mr. Norton, Quincy. In the afternoon, returned home to Stoughton. Heard that a party of our soldiers took some of the centres that were placed by the Regulars near Brown's chimneys.

Saturday, Feb. 24. — It being wet and very muddy, kept house the whole day, and employed myself in writing. Nothing remarkable from the armies this day.

Sunday, Feb. 25. — It continues wet and muddy. A soldier from below says that the Regulars have landed at the Castle two or three vessel-loads of fascines, and it is imagined they intend to take possession of Dorchester Hill. In the afternoon, went to public worship.

Monday, Feb. 26. — The weather quite moderate, the roads wet and very muddy: but few travellers passing and repassing. It is said that the heavy cannon which were left at Framingham are brought down to Cambridge; the mortars are fixed in their new beds; the fort at Lechmere's Point nearly finished; fascines going constantly to Dorchester; and every thing getting in readiness to make a push by our army.

Tuesday, Feb. 27. — In the morning, went down to Roxbury; from thence, went to Brookline. About twelve o'clock (at noon), a person came from Dorchester to Roxbury; reported that five hundred of the Regulars were landed on Dorchester Point; upon which an alarm was beat, expresses galloping to Cambridge, the whole army in Roxbury in arms, and the soldiers quartered in the neighborhood all marching to join the main body, and every thing had the appearance of a sudden battle; but it proved a false alarm. Exceeding muddy, and bad travelling.

Wednesday, Feb. 28. — Quite an uncomfortable day, being wet, muddy, and sometimes snow, mixed with rain and hail. Employed myself at writing most part of the day. No intelligence from below.

Thursday, Feb. 29. — Went to Roxbury and Brookline. Dined at Parson Jackson's. From his farm, could see Boston, and that the steeple of Mr. Howard's meeting-house was taken down: it was standing last Tuesday. I then saw it from Roxbury. Great talk of our army taking possession of Dorchester Hill in a few days. Bad travelling.

Friday, March 1. — A very cold day; the weather clear. Hear that orders are sent for seven regiments of the militia this way, to be ready to march upon the signal for an alarm; each man to be well provided with arms, and to carry three days' provisions, dressed: the militia the other way to be in like readiness. On one side, the militia are to man the lines while our army takes possession of Dorchester Hill: on the other side, they propose to go to Noddle's Island. Mr. Lyon says that Colonel Palmer told Colonel Gill we had eighty tons of powder in store. I wish it may be true.

Saturday, March 2. — In the morning, took a ride, and visited Mr. Joseph Billings and several other of our Stoughton neighbors. In the afternoon, went down to Milton: there saw Mr. Welles and several other Bostonians. Heard that several mortars, with a large number of shells, were brought from Cambridge to Roxbury, and that they were proving the shells, in order to see they were tight, and fit to be fired; also that the cannon were drawn out, and the shot placed for them, and every appearance of a speedy firing from Roxbury into Boston.

Sunday, March 3. — A continual firing was heard the whole of last night. A traveller from Roxbury says that a number of shells were thrown from Roxbury last night into Boston, also a number of cannon fired from thence into town, and that the shot were heard striking the houses. In the afternoon, another traveller from Cambridge says that several shells and a number of shot were fired from Lechmere's Point into Boston; also that one cannon was fired from Prospect Hill to Bunker's Hill; and they returned a shell which blew up the platform in Prospect Hill, but hurt no person. Also hear that two mortars in Roxbury, and two on Lechmere's Point, burst last night, but did no damage. An express passed by, with a letter to Colonel Gill; supposed for the militia to go down.

Monday, March 4. — It is said that a mortar, fired yesterday noon

by the Regulars from Beacon Hill, split. Yesterday afternoon, Colonel Gill received orders to be with his regiment at Roxbury by this day, twelve o'clock, at noon. This forenoon, the soldiers of Colonel Gill's regiment passed to join the American Army at Roxbury. In the afternoon, went to Milton: there found great numbers of the militia passing to Roxbury. The two armies below were firing shot and shells at each other all last night; but hear of no person on our side killed or wounded. The "Congress" mortar was disabled upon firing the third shell from Lechmere's Point. Every preparation is making, and all things necessary near ready, at Roxbury, to take possession of Dorchester Hills this night. May we succeed!

Tuesday, March 5. — Last evening, the brave, resolute, and determined American soldiers took possession of the Heights at Dorchester; the particulars of which, as I hear, are briefly these: At nine o'clock in the evening, twenty-five hundred men marched from Roxbury to Dorchester. About four hundred teams attended them, carrying fascines, intrenching tools, and every article necessary to secure the troops and for breaking the ground. Our troops took possession of the ground without opposition. At about four o'clock this morning, a relief of thirty-five hundred men went on the Hills, and kept possession of them. At several times, there seemed appearances of the enemy coming out; but they did not, and only fired a few shot on the hill: but no person has received even a wound at Dorchester. At Roxbury, it is said, one Mr. Mayo died of a wound he received by a cannon-ball last evening from Boston Neck. One man killed at Lechmere Point. A brisk firing from all quarters most part of the night.

Wednesday, March 6. — Yesterday, went to Watertown, and attended the delivery of the annual oration of the 5th of March on the horrid massacre in Boston in 1770. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Cooper, and the oration delivered by the Rev. Mr. Peter Thacher. A considerable number of Bostonians were assembled on the occasion; which was a most agreeable sight, especially as there appeared an affectionate regard for each other. Mr. Bass tells me he was at Dorchester, and visited the works on the Hills. They are very strong, and well secured against an attack from the enemy. Last night and this morning, it blew excessive hard from the southward, with heavy showers of rain. It has, most part of the day, been blowing hard gales of wind.

Thursday, March 7. — This day is observed as a day of public fast-

ing and prayer throughout this Province, on account of the public and general calamities the Colony now labors under, agreeable to the appointment of the present governors thereof. I went to public worship this morning. By a traveller from below, hear that there are two forts already erected on the Heights of Dorchester, mounted with cannon; that one of our large mortars is fixed in its bed on one of the heights; and that our army have done incredible work there. The militia who went down on Monday are returning home. The weather clear and moderate. I hear this afternoon that our troops on Dorchester Heights have three mortars fixed in their beds there; also that they are, this night, to go upon a point of land opposite the old windmill on Boston Neck.

Friday, March 8. — Our troops did not go last night to the point of land, as was reported; but they intend it in a few days. Pero was at Roxbury yesterday. He says he heard that a flag of truce came out of Boston yesterday; also that Burbee was in jail. It is also said that a Regular who had some concern in our artillery is also under guard. A Norton man had his arm blown off, and one of his eyes out, by means of a cartridge taking fire as he was loading a cannon on Dorchester Neck. Mrs. Price and Mrs. A. went down to the Mills. In the afternoon, several soldiers from below passed, who say that our army on Dorchester Hills have got their barracks up so as to shelter them from the weather, and that the Regulars have not fired either yesterday or to-day upon any part of our army.

Saturday, March 9. — The reports of this day are so very interesting to us, the distressed inhabitants of Boston, and, at the same time, so comforting, that I shall here mention them with great pleasure. Travellers from Cambridge and Roxbury report, — that yesterday a flag of truce came out of Boston, with a letter from General Howe, or a letter from the selectmen of Boston, or from both of them, which mentioned, that, in case our army would cease firing till the 1st of April next (some say only for three days), the general would leave Boston, with all his troops, and do no damage to the town, or private property; that General Washington was to send an answer this day; that a person came out of Boston the night before last, who says, that, the three nights our army bombarded and cannonaded the town, the inhabitants there were in the utmost distress and confusion; that the Regular Army were removing their artillery and stores on board the ships; that part of the works on Bunker's Hill were already destroyed; that a gondola from Charlestown, loaded with cannon and stores from Bunk-

er's Hill, last Tuesday night sunk in the river. It is also said that carts and wagons have been seen continually passing from the several parts of the town, supposed to be loaded with stores going to be put on board the transports, and a general appearance of leaving the town. It is further said, that the admiral, when he found that our troops had taken possession of the Heights at Dorchester, sent to General Howe to inform him of it; at the same time acquainted him, that, unless he would send his troops to dislodge our army from thence, that he (the admiral) would bring his vessels to sail, and leave the harbor: upon which the general ordered out three thousand men for that purpose, and had them on Hancock's Wharf, where the boats were ready to transport them to Dorchester; but one-half of the men refused going; whereupon other troops were ordered for the purpose; but, upon going to embark on the boats, the greater part refused going, saying, if they must be sacrificed, they had rather die in the town; upon which the matter was laid aside. It is also reported that the Tories applied to the admiral for protection on board the king's ships, who told them that they might look out for themselves: he should receive none of them. May these reports prove true, and a kind Providence return us again to our beloved city in peace, and the full enjoyment of our liberty!

Sunday, March 10. — Yesterday afternoon, we had a report from several travellers from below, that Bunker's Hill was dismantled and deserted by the Regulars, and that they were removing out of Boston; but last evening they began, about nine o'clock, a brisk and heavy cannonade. I went on the hill near Stephen Davenport's, and could there see the flashes of their guns, which seemed incessant. The reports of the cannon were loud, and continued the whole night and until after daybreak. I went to public worship in the morning. At noon, some travellers from below informed me, that our army, yesterday afternoon, in full sight of the enemy, transported fascines and other materials to Nook Hill, on Dorchester Neck, in order to intrench there; but, about nine o'clock, the enemy cannonaded so briskly from the town and the shipping, that they were prevented. Four men, some say five, were killed by the enemy's cannon, and by one ball: they were sitting round a fire on the hill. Our cannon, from Lechmere's Point and Cobble Hill, fired all night, — eighteen from Roxbury, and three from Dorchester Hill; all into Boston.

Monday, March 11. — All was very peaceable between the two armies last night; no cannon being fired on either side. In the forenoon, went down to Milton. The accounts there, relating the cannonade

on Saturday night, are,—that the shipping did not fire; but that the whole fire on the part of the enemy was from the blockhouse on the point of land near the windmill on Boston Neck, and the several wharves at the south part of Boston, to the Long Wharf; that a party of our men who were on Nook Hill, and prevented getting off by the continual fire of the enemy's cannon, lay on their bellies there the whole night, under a ridge, and were preserved from hurt, although the cannon-balls fell all around them. It is said that our people have taken up upwards nine hundred cannon-ball of the enemy's. Reported that women and children, with great quantities of baggage, are seen going on board the ships.

Tuesday, March 12.—The weather quite moderate. Hear that there was considerable firing of cannon last night, but do not learn from whence it issued. No remarkable news from either of the armies below.

Wednesday, March 13.—Went to Dedham. Reports of the day,—that, last night, the Regulars fired, most part of the night, on Nook Hill, in Dorchester. Our troops did not return the fire, agreeable to orders; which, I believe, were from prudent reasons. A soldier says that it was reported in camp that five thousand Regulars were landed at New York, and had drove the inhabitants back. Further reports,—that near fifty sail of men-of-war and transports were fallen down to King Road; that more appearances of the Regulars' intention of leaving Boston; that there is an alarm for the militia to come out.

Thursday, March 14.—The wind easterly, with rain and snow, which makes it very uncomfortable without doors. A soldier from our camps says that the people at Milton and Braintree were alarmed last night, apprehending the Regulars intended landing on some part of the sea-coast that way; the transports having drawn near Squantum. He also said that the rifle-men were to set out this day for New York, as it was reported in camp that five thousand Regulars had landed at New York, and drove our men as far back as King's Bridge. Hear that one or more of our brigades are under orders to march to New York.

Friday, March 15.—A pleasant morning. No firing from the enemy last night. At noon, went down to Milton. There it was reported that five regiments were this afternoon to march from our army to New York; that several articles of household furniture were found drove on the shores, by which it is conjectured that the Regulars are plundering the town, and carrying off the goods in it. It does not yet appear that the Regulars have deserted any of their forts or lines; but,

by their movements, it is thought they will soon quit Boston. I hear that a deserter, who came out two nights ago, says the Regulars are to go from Boston to Halifax. The travelling continues exceeding bad.

Saturday, March 16. — It rained most part of the night, and continues raining this forenoon. No travellers from below to give any intelligence. In the afternoon, a traveller reports that two regiments marched yesterday for New York: some other regiments are to march to-morrow. He also says that one of our barracks on Prospect Hill took fire last night, and burnt down. Another traveller says he heard that it was a barrack on Bunker's Hill that was burnt last night, and that the Regulars had thrown up an intrenchment near Brown's Chimneys. A third traveller says it was a barrack on Prospect Hill that was burnt by carelessness; which unlucky accident I am very sorry to hear.

Sunday, March 17. — Last night and this morning, the reports of a continual cannonade were heard. As no traveller from below has passed, cannot hear the occasion of it; but suppose it to be occasioned by our army intrenching on Nook Hill, as I hear they intended going on that hill after dark last evening. In the forenoon, went to public worship. At noon, Mr. Edmund Quincy brought us the most interesting, most important, and most comforting news we have heard since I left Boston; which was no less than that the Regulars (British) and the mercenary troops, employed by the wicked, diabolical, British ministry, had been obliged to fly out of Boston this day, but not before they had plundered the town, and committed thefts and depredations in every part of it, and conveyed their stolen goods on board the ships, and then departed out of the harbor. Thus the Royal British Army is now become Royal Thieves.

Monday, March 18. — Early in the morning, I set out from our Stoughton home, and, after obtaining a pass from General Ward, went through Roxbury over Boston Neck; passed the enemy's lines there and at Boston Fortification, and rode through the main streets of my dear native town of Boston. There visited my sister, who had been forced from my house; and saw a number of my Boston friends, and the friends of our country, who had been shut up near eleven months past in that town by the cruel hand of arbitrary power, and who, by means of the hard and savage treatment of the British soldiery, and the want, not only of the comforts, but many of the necessaries, of life, were become thin, and their flesh wasted, but yet in good spirits, and rejoicing at meeting their fellow-townsmen; while the Tories about the town,

to their thin visages added looks of guilt, and a conviction of their base ingratitude to their country and fellow-townsmen. As I passed through the town, it gave me much pain of mind to see the havoc, waste, and destruction of the houses, fences, and trees in the town, occasioned by those sons of Belial, who have, near a year past, had the possession of it. But, save a few wretches who tarried behind to take the punishment due to their wicked deeds, the inhabitants who are now taking their residence in the town seemed all of one heart and one mind, zealous in the support of our rights and liberties, and, if possible, more determined than ever to resist the force and power of all those who dare attempt to invade them. Accordingly, every method is taking in the town to fortify and strengthen it against our enemies, and prevent their ever being able to land again in that town. The thefts and robberies of the royal thieves are very great, and many worthy inhabitants will be ruined by it. I returned home in the evening.

Tuesday, March 19. — A pleasant morning. Son Zek came to visit and spend the day with us. Dr. Jarvis and Mr. Breck called here, in their way to go into Boston. Heard the report of cannon, which, it is said, is from the Castle or a battery of ours on Dorchester Point. No person has received any hurt by the cannonade, as our army are well covered there. In the evening, Mr. Hammett, with Mrs. Breck, stopped and lodged here, in their way to Boston. Reported that the Regulars are blowing up the works at Castle William.

Wednesday, March 20. — This forenoon, went to Dorchester. There had a full view of the ministerial navy and transports, with the army on board them. It is supposed there was about eighty sail of vessels lying between the castle and the lighthouse. The enemy continued their fire on our battery on Dorchester Point, but did no damage: they were employing themselves in destroying the works at the Castle, and carrying off the stores. In the evening, a very great light appeared over the top of the Blue Hill, supposed to be the enemy's burning the buildings on Castle Island.

Thursday, March 21. — Last evening, the enemy burnt all the buildings on Castle Island. A considerable of a snow-storm last night and this morning: it afterwards cleared away pleasant. Mr. Andrews, from Boston, says that we have found cannon and stores there to a very large amount, also thirty thousand bushels of wheat; and that our army are strengthening the town in every part, to prevent an attack from the enemy; that vast devastation of property has been made by the enemy.

Friday, March 22. — Went to Boston. Visited my sister. Found that a considerable part of my furniture was broke, and some of it lost: however, am thankful so much of it still remains. The fleet continue in Nantasket Road: cannot learn their destination. Some suppose they are going to the southward; others, to Halifax, and there wait till the river is open, and then proceed to Quebec. Some apprehend they will not go to sea till their provision-vessels arrive, as it is said they have but two weeks' provisions on board. Saw Captain Collins in Boston. The town appears in many places but little better than a heap of ruins. Great number of the houses are wholly down; a great number of others are almost destroyed, the insides of them being cut and broke in pieces, and many of them nothing more left than the outside shell. Returned home in the evening.

Saturday, March 23. — This morning, a considerable snow; it afterwards cleared away, and was very moderate. At noon, Captain Collins called here, in his way home. Several persons from Boston; but have not heard of any thing material. The American Army continue fortifying the town, and some of them have been on Castle Island. The enemy have left a number of cannon there; but they first broke off the arms of most of them. The fleet still continues in Nantasket Road. Mrs. Blanchard (Joshua's wife) stopped and lodged here, on her way to Boston.

Sunday, March 24. — The wind about north-west, and blows a very fresh gale. No person from below this forenoon, so that could not hear any news from thence. I went to public worship this forenoon. Some travellers from below, this afternoon, say that the fleet still remain in Nantasket Road, although the wind has blown a fair and fresh gale for their departure all this day. Also hear that a number of our army are on Castle Island, drilling the cannon which the enemy spiked up there. Read last Thursday's paper, which contained some very agreeable news; in particular, that the minority there gained ground.

Monday, March 25. — Went to Newton, and visited Mr. Justice Pemberton there. From thence went to Watertown, in expectation of seeing Mr. Cushing; but, hearing there that he was at Cambridge, went down, and, after waiting there about two hours, saw him. From thence, returned to Stoughton in the evening. A report that Quebec was in the possession of our army; also that a number of the enemy's vessels had sailed from Nantasket. At Watertown and Cambridge, saw a number of my Boston friends.

Tuesday, March 26. — Went to the upper parish in Braintree.

Visited Esquire Niles. Returned to Stoughton about dark. At Braintree, could plainly see the enemy's ships, which lay in Nantasket Road : they appeared very near that shore, and the inhabitants thereabouts much exposed to the enemy's landing. At Milton, a young Continental officer, being there, said that the regiment he belonged to were to march in the morning. He was not certain which way, but believed to Quebec. The travelling with a carriage exceeding bad.

Wednesday, March 27.—A cold yet pleasant morning. Heard that the enemy's fleet still remained in Nantasket Road. Captain Wormall, who came out of Boston this afternoon, says he heard a report that our army at the southward had an engagement with the Regulars there, and we had killed fourteen hundred of them, and made prisoners of all the rest ; that another parcel of the fleet had sailed from Nantasket Road ; that the captain of the "Niger," frigate-of-war, had sent into Plymouth, that he would surrender the ship if they would send out a vessel of force.

Thursday, March 28.—It continues cold and clear. Several persons from below. Some of them heard nothing of the report by Captain Wormall relating the engagement at the southward. Mr. Joshua Blanchard says he heard of the engagement ; but it was said eleven hundred were killed and wounded. He says all the fleet are sailed, except a few ships-of-war. Mr. Royal says he heard that our army at Quebec has had an engagement, and that we lost seven hundred men. Hope it is not true.

Friday, March 29.—Set out early in the morning, and went to Boston, where a town-meeting was held for the choice of town-officers. The scattered inhabitants collected together, met at the Old Brick Meeting-house, and proceeded in the choice of the officers of the town, usually chosen at their annual March meeting : and it was really a very pleasant sight, after near eleven months' absence, to see so many of my worthy fellow-citizens meet together in that now ravaged, plundered town ; but the spot even yet agreeable. Some person had broke into Mrs. Draper's house, and robbed me of great part of my china. Returned to my Stoughton home in the evening.

Saturday, March 30.—The wind easterly, and appearance of a storm. Mrs. Gridley and Scar stopped here, in their way from Boston. Scar says a large quantity of shot and shells were thrown by the enemy off Rowe's Wharf into the dock there ; that we are fortifying Fort Hill, and demolishing all the enemy's works which point against the country, and that other fortifications are to be erected to

secure Boston Harbor ; that General Ward is to command the garrison at Boston, &c. ; how that six regiments marched yesterday from Cambridge, either to New York or Canada.

Sunday, March 31. — Last evening and night, it blew a considerable gale at east and north-east, attended with snow. In the morning it rained, and continued raining most part of the day ; which made the travelling exceeding wet and sloppy, so that we were all prevented going to public worship. Several travellers from below stopped here ; but they bring nothing material from thence. One Wall, who assisted the Regulars, and was engaged with them in the battle at Bunker's Hill, is taken up in Boston, and committed to jail there. A list of the Tories remaining in Boston, with their several characters and behavior during their residence with the Regulars in Boston, is sent to the General Court ; and a committee is appointed thereon.

Monday, April 1. — In the evening past, it rained considerably. Yesterday and this morning, the militia, who, two months ago, enlisted to re-enforce the lines for that term, are returning home. In the forenoon, heard some guns fired, which sounded like cannon. In the afternoon, walked to the Brook ; heard very distinctly the report of a number of cannon. Mr. Royal called on us last evening, and said he had heard that Plymouth was near one-half burnt by the Regulars landing there on Friday last ; but since hear the report is not true.

Tuesday, April 2. — Last evening it was reported that a number of the transports which sailed out of Boston were gone to Newport, and landed a number of troops on that island. This morning, several travellers reported the same ; but, from the whole, do not find any thing in the matter, more than that about thirty sail of the fleet had got to Newport, and no certain account of any troops being landed. Several persons from Boston, this way, say that nothing material has happened there for several days past. It has been a pleasant day ; the travelling bad.

Wednesday, April 3. — It rained in the morning, which prevented my going to Boston as intended. Mr. Andrews and wife, from Boston, in their way to Taunton, stopped here. He says that the fortifications on Fort Hill are very strong there, and some of the islands in the harbor are fortifying ; that several vessels from the eastward are arriving in Boston, with lumber, &c. A person from Dartmouth says that the enemy's fleet did not go into Newport Harbor, but, after

hovering about there some time, pushed out to sea. It has rained most part of the day.

Thursday, April 4. — Went to Boston. A town-meeting was held there, in order to apply to the General Court for fortifying the town and securing the harbor. General Washington dined in Boston; and I heard he intended going to the southward, and was to set out this afternoon. Several regiments marched from Roxbury to the southward. Hear that only five regiments are to be left this way; three of them in Boston, and two at Dorchester Neck. There yet remains in King Road ten ships of the enemy's. Returned home in the evening. It has been excessive windy all day.

Friday, April 5. — It continues very windy, but yet clear, moderate, and pleasant. Walked to the Brook. Saw a person from Newport, who says that there have been several alarms about the Regulars being seen near the island, and supposed intended to land there; but the reports were all groundless. It is said that a transport is ashore on Cape Cod, laden with Tory effects and a number of Tory passengers, among whom is Jolley Allen, and a parcel of Scotchmen. Mr. Holmes, from Boston, says that General Washington set out yesterday afternoon for the southward. Hear that there is now but one ship in Nantasket.

Saturday, April 6. — A warm, clear, and spring-like day. Mr. Joseph Russell from Boston to Taunton, and Dr. Jarvis from Dartmouth to Boston, called here. In the afternoon, Ed. Quincy stopped here. He came from Boston, and says that Captain Manley was in Boston, and told there that he had taken out of the fleet a brig laden with Tories and Tory goods, and other effects, which they plundered in Boston. Among the Tories is Bill Jackson. It is said this was their richest vessel in [the] fleet: had eighteen thousand pounds sterling in cash on board, besides an exceeding valuable cargo of European merchandize.

Sunday, April 7. — Rain most part of the day, which prevented going to public worship. Not a single traveller have I seen; neither has any person stopt here this day: so that we have heard nothing remarkable. In the afternoon, two soldiers passed, who said they came from Bunker's Hill; and, on their way, heard that the Tories who were taken in the transport brig were brought to Cambridge, in order to be committed to close custody.

Monday, April 8. — An uncomfortable day; the weather drizzling, the wind at east, and chilly cold. Mr. Royal informs that he heard,

from good authority, the American fleet, under command of Admiral Hopkins, had been to New Providence, taken possession of that place, and brought off the governor, the secretary, and a number of other persons of distinction, besides a large quantity of warlike stores, &c. ; and that the fleet intended to attack Wallace and his fleet ; also that war was declared by France against England.

Tuesday, April 9. — It rained all the forenoon, and was very uncomfortable. At noon, a traveller from below says that he heard Captain Paddock and Captain Gore were among the Tories taken in the transport brig by Captain Manley. Afterwards several other travellers from below passed ; but they did not hear of Paddock or Gore being in that vessel, and no other of note but Bill Jackson and Crane Brush. Yesterday the remains of Dr. Warren were re-interred in Boston with every mark of honor and respect that was possible to be exhibited.

Wednesday, April 10. — Went to Dedham. Dined with Mrs. Cushing : there saw sister Avery, who came from Leominster the week before. Brother Johnny was in Boston. A member of the General Court informed me that it was agreed in court to fortify Noddle's Island, and raise a regiment to garrison it. The news of Admiral Hopkins's success at New Providence confirmed ; also that a part of his fleet had taken a brig, a sloop, and schooner belonging to Wallace's fleet at Rhode Island, and had obliged Wallace to quit that harbor, and had drove another man-of-war from her moorings. I returned home in the evening.

Thursday, April 11. — It rained this morning, and blew very violent. In the forenoon, cleared away, but continued very windy. In the afternoon, Mr. Jenkins, also Miss Becky Gridley and Mrs. Hirst, stopped here, in their way from Boston. Hear that Bill Jackson and the others taken by Captain Manley were brought to Boston yesterday, and kept together under a guard last night ; and this morning he was carried to Watertown, in order to be examined. The coasters, with wood from the eastward, begin to get into Boston : three of them arrived there yesterday.

Friday, April 12. — Last night and this morning, rain, with very high winds. It continued blowing violently almost the whole day. A report that cannon were heard firing from eleven o'clock until daybreak ; supposed to be somewhere at the southward. It is said that upwards three hundred cannon were fired ; others say twice that number of guns were heard, and that it seemed that the firing of

whole broadsides from ships. [*sic*] These firings were heard distinctly not much more than a quarter of a mile from us.

Saturday, April 13. — In the morning, went to Boston. The news there was, — that Admiral Hopkins, with the American fleet under his command, had an engagement with the Ministerial fleet; that one of their ships had shot away the admiral's tiller rope; which so disabled his ship, that she for some time lay exposed to the enemy's fire, which much disabled her, killed him eleven men, wounded the admiral in two places; also wounded the admiral's son, who was captain of a vessel in the fleet; but they got off clear, and carried away with them a brig, a sloop, and a schooner, all armed vessels belonging to the enemy; and it is supposed killed great numbers of the enemy.

Sunday, April 14. — A pleasant day. Mrs. Price and Polly went to public worship. Dr. Jarvis stopped and dined with us. A person stopt here, in his way from Boston to Providence. This person says that he was employed to carry the account of the engagement that happened in Newport Harbor on last Thursday evening; and that he was in the engagement, on board one of the row-galleys. As he informs, the matter was in brief this, — that the "Scarborough," man-of-war, came into the harbor with two prizes; that, in the evening, a battery of four eighteen-pounders erected on Brenton's Point played upon her, also two row-galleys from Providence. The firing lasted till towards morning; about a thousand cannon being fired on both sides. The "Scarborough" cut her cables, and went out, supposed much disabled, and the loss of many men, leaving her two prizes, behind which were carried up to Providence. The steersman of one of the galleys was wounded, and it is thought will die soon; also that one of the ferry-boats took a provision-vessel coming into the harbor. He says fifteen hundred American soldiers are on the island.

Monday, April 15. — Went with Mrs. Price to Dorchester to view the house I engaged for the summer season. Returned home at noon. Last evening, the report of cannon was heard towards the bay: could not learn with any certainty the occasion of it. In the afternoon, Deacon Church, with his wife and daughter, stopped here, in their way from Taunton to Boston: he went from hence. Mrs. Church and daughter tarried, in order to lodge here. The weather moderate; but an appearance of foul weather.

Tuesday, April 16. — The weather very disagreeable; rain and

windy: but, as I was obliged to attend the Courts of Common Pleas and Sessions at their meeting in Braintree, set out in the morning. Those two courts were opened, and acted upon some little business in the forenoon; also sat in the afternoon, and then adjourned. Heard that two vessels (one a French vessel) arrived a short time ago at the southward with powder. Heard read a very sensible and polite letter from the Continental Congress to General Washington on the success of his army near Boston.

Wednesday, April 17. — Clear and pleasant. In the morning, it was reported that Colonel Greaton's regiment had taken passage by water from New York for the northward, and were made prisoners by the enemy's fleet. The report circulated very fast: but none could tell how it came, or by what authority; so that little or no credit is given to it. Mr. Leonard Jarvis from Boston: he says there is no remarkable news there from any quarter. Mrs. Price and Polly, and Mrs. A., visited at Stephen Davenport's.

Thursday, April 18. — Intended to set out early this morning for Boston; but it rained last night and this morning, which wet the roads, and made the travelling so bad, that prevented my going. The weather, most part of the day, windy, and appearance of rain. Mr. Joseph Russell and Nat Greene passed, on their way to Boston. Hear that the Continental Congress have resolved upon a free trade with all nations, the British only excepted. Hear that four ships are arrived lately in Nantasket. Afterwards heard that ten ships were arrived.

Friday, April 19. — Early this morning, set out for Boston. Was employed almost the whole day in removing my house-furniture from my sister's to father Avery's house, and sending part of it to Dorchester. Remained in Boston all day, and lodged there with Captain Jonathan Davis. The evening I spent in company with five or six of my old friends and acquaintance. The town yet looks melancholy; but few of the inhabitants being removed back into it, occasioned by its not being sufficiently fortified and garrisoned against any further attempt of the enemy, to which it now lies much exposed. The shops in general remain shut up. This day is the anniversary of the famous battle of Lexington.

Saturday, April 20. — Remained in Boston. Several of the active Tories have been examined by the Court of Inquiry, and committed to jail for trial. Dr. Whitworth and son were yesterday on their examination, and afterwards ordered to give bail. It is said the

justices have evidence of the doctor's not having acted the part of an honest surgeon in his practice on the late unfortunate Colonel Parker ; and that his limb was unnecessarily taken off, and a cruel neglect of attendance on him, by which means he lost his life. Heard at Milton that the Marshfield Tories had come from Halifax there to throw themselves on the mercy of the people, but were not suffered to land ; also heard that the enemy's ships-of-war had blocked up Admiral Hopkins in the harbor of New London. Returned to Stoughton.

Sunday, April 21. — A very pleasant morning. Mrs. Price and Polly went to public worship : Polly tarried at noon. No traveller has stopped here this forenoon ; so that I have not learned any news from any quarter.

Monday, April 22. — It rained this morning. In the forenoon, visited Mr. Royal, and took leave of him as going from Stoughton. After dinner, having sent down to Dorchester what effects we had at Stoughton, took chaise, and went to Dorchester ; first taking an affectionate leave of Colonel Doty's family, where we have resided near twelve months ; that place being the first we took rest in after leaving our habitation in Boston, and flying from the oppressive hand of arbitrary power, which governed then our native town. We lodged at Mr. Withington's, a part of whose house we have hired, in order to be accommodated while we can reside in Boston with safety and convenience.

Tuesday, April 23. — We are now situated about five and a half miles from Boston. I went into Boston, and entered upon business ; examining the papers in the store of George Erving. Returned to Dorchester.

Wednesday, April 24. — Went to Boston. Examined the papers in Major Paddock's house. Returned home.

Thursday, April 25. — Went to Boston. Entered upon examination of the papers in the custom-house.

Friday, April 26. — Went to Boston. Continued the examination of the papers in the custom-house. Brought Mrs. Harrison from Boston.

Saturday, April 27. — Went to Boston. Continued the examination of the papers in the custom-house.

Sunday, April 28. — Mrs. Price, self, and Polly went to public worship both parts of the day.

Monday, April 29. — Went to Boston. Continued on the examina-

tion of the custom-house papers ; also went to Treasurer Gray's office, and examined the papers there.

Tuesday, April 30. — Attended the pleas and sessions at Braintree. It rained the whole day.

Wednesday, May 1. — Went to Boston in order to examine the treasurer's papers ; but Mrs. Greenleaf could not attend with the key.

Thursday, May 2. — Went to Boston in order to examine the treasurer's papers, and examined those in the Province House.

Friday, May 3. — Went to Boston. A number of the inhabitants of Boston went on Noddle's Island to work on the forts there. Heard that about seventeen thousand troops, mostly foreign, were coming out on the American station ; and that General Burgoyne, with four thousand English troops, had sailed from England for Quebec.

Saturday, May 4. — Remained at Dorchester the whole day. In the afternoon, walked as far as Dorchester Point. Viewed the fort there erecting, also those on the two hills and at Nook Hill, and returned home towards evening.

Sunday, May 5. — In the forenoon, went to public worship. Mrs. Price, Mrs. H., and Polly went in the afternoon.

Monday, May 6. — Went to Boston. Examined papers at the custom-house. Reports of the day, — that 'a deserter came from the man-of-war below, who says that it was the talk among the officers of the ship, that the troops and navy which fled from Boston were ordered back to Boston. A young man drowned in going on board a privateer in the harbor. The works on Noddle's Island and Fort Hill go on briskly.

Tuesday, May 7. — It rained all the forenoon. In the afternoon, went to Boston.

Wednesday, May 8. — Went to Boston. Heard of one of our privateers taking two brigs belonging to and from Europe. It rained most part of the day.

Thursday, May 9. — Remained at Dorchester the whole day. Parson Everett and lady dined with us.

Friday, May 10. — Went to Boston. The Boston people, and many others from the country towns near, attend working on Noddle's Island. In the afternoon, rain.

Saturday, May 11. — Went to Boston. By accounts from Halifax, the Tories are in great distress there.

Sunday, May 12. — It rained in the forenoon ; which prevented going to meeting. At noon, some cannon were fired ; which was on

account of the arrival of a ship-of-war, supposed to be from England. In the afternoon, I went to public worship with Mrs. H. The late rain has caused the earth to be covered with an agreeable green verdure; and the blossoms of the peach-trees appear beautiful, and give a sweet smell.

Monday, May 13.—Went to Boston. Several vessels-of-war, great and small, in Nantasket Road. Advice from England by a rifleman who was taken at Quebec last year, and sent there.

Tuesday, May 14.—Went to Braintree, and attended court there.

Wednesday, May 15.—Went to Boston. A number of Tories were examined before the Court of Inquiry.

Thursday, May 16.—Went to Boston. The fortifications go on briskly.

Friday, May 17.—A general fast throughout the continent, appointed by the Continental Congress. We all went to public worship at Mr. Fverett's. This day, one of our small [vessels?] took, near the light-house, a store-ship belonging to the enemy, of two hundred and eighty tons, laden with fifteen hundred barrels of gunpowder, a thousand firearms, and other articles. This is not only a very valuable, but important prize, as the articles on board were wanted by us.

Saturday, May 18.—Went to Boston. It rained the whole day.

Sunday, May 19.—A pleasant day. Went to public worship: nothing remarkable.

Monday, May 20.—Went to Boston. The Committee of War, at Boston, received letters from the Committee of Correspondence in Berkshire, with an account that the Continental troops before Quebec had raised the siege, leaving behind them their artillery, provisions, and two hundred sick, occasioned by a re-enforcement of Regular troops and some men-of-war arriving about the 4th of May in the River St. Lawrence, and landing at Quebec.

Tuesday, May 21.—Went to Boston: nothing remarkable.

Wednesday, May 22.—Went to Boston.

Thursday, May 23.—Went to Boston. Yesterday, an engagement between two of our small privateers and upwards thirteen boats belonging to the men-of-war. Captain Mugford killed on our side. It is supposed great numbers were killed of the enemy. Several of the enemy's boats were sunk, and drove on shore.

Friday, May 24.—Went to Boston. The enemy took a small schooner laden with sea-coal from Salem.

Saturday, May 25.—Went to Boston: nothing remarkable.

Heard General Gates and Colonel Mifflin were coming to Boston to take command; also that eight battalions of soldiers were to be stationed at Boston.

Sunday, May 26. — Appearance of rain. I went to public worship both parts of the day. Colonel Gridley passed to Boston.

Monday, May 27. — Went to Boston.

Tuesday, May 28. — Went to Boston.

Wednesday, May 29. — Went to Watertown. Election of councillors.

Thursday, May 30. — Went to Boston.

Friday, May 31. — Went to Watertown. Returned home by way of Cambridge.

Saturday, June 1. — Went to Boston. A report that a deserter from the admiral's ship at Halifax says a talk there was, that they intended coming to Boston or Cape Ann.

Sunday, June 2. — I went to public worship both parts of the day. Some rain.

Monday, June 3. — Went to Stoughton with Mrs. Price.

Tuesday, June 4. — Went to Needham. Returned home by the way of Cambridge, Charlestown, and over the ferry.

Wednesday, June 5. — In the forenoon, went to Boston. In the afternoon, at Dorchester town-meeting.

Thursday, June 6. — I went with the Dorchester people to work on Castle Island.

Friday, June 7. — Went to Dedham to attend opening the votes for the choice of a county register; but they were not opened.

Saturday, June 8. — Went to Boston. A privateer commanded by Captain Tracey, named the "Yankee Hero," was taken by the enemy's ships-of-war. In the afternoon, heard of our privateers taking a ship with ninety-five Highlanders, soldiers, and thirty-five seamen on board, and carrying them into Marblehead.

Sunday, June 9. — Went to public worship both parts of the day. Saw several vessels coming into Boston Harbor, supposed to be wood vessels from the eastward.

Monday, June 10. — Went to Boston. Had the pleasure of seeing the Highlanders, soldiers, that were taken by our privateers: they were within the confines of our prison in Boston. Six or seven transports arrived in K. Road.

Tuesday, June 11. — Remained at Dorchester the whole day. E. W. Calef, from Boston, informs that a flag of truce went from Boston

this morning on board the Commodore below, to negotiate an exchange of prisoners ; in particular, Captain Tracey and his crew. He says they were received civilly ; but an exchange could not be effected. He says further, that Captain Tracey and his crew were used in as humane a manner as could be expected ; none of them in irons.

Wednesday, June 12. — Went to Boston. Report of an engagement between the Continental Army and the Regulars in Canada, but not much credited.

Thursday, June 13. — Went to Boston. The whole day, preparations making for driving the man-of-war and transports from out of this harbor. In the afternoon, the Continental troops embarked in boats, in order to take possession of the islands in the harbor and the hills at Nantasket ; and a number of battering cannon, with a large mortar, were also in boats, ready to go.

Friday, June 14. — About six o'clock (by some accident or mistake, the cannon could not be fired before), the cannon began from Long Island to play upon the shipping, which obliged them to weigh their anchors, and make the best of their way out of the harbor. As they passed between Nantasket and the lighthouse, our artillery gave them some shot from Nantasket Hill. The enemy sent their boats on shore at the Lighthouse Island, and brought from thence a party, there placed, of Regulars ; after which they destroyed the lighthouse ; and then the whole fleet made all the sail they could, and went to sea, steering their course eastward. I went to Squantum, and spent the day there, where I had the pleasure of the agreeable sight of the harbor of Boston being wholly cleared of those pirates and plunderers, which this day completed two years since they had shut up the port and harbor of Boston. The Continental troops were assisted by the Colony troops and the militia of the neighboring towns ; all of which behaved with their usual bravery, courage, and resolution.

Saturday, June 15. — Went to Boston. Accounts of an engagement in Canada between our troops and the enemy there ; but so various, that nothing certain can be obtained. The wind blowing fresh at the eastward. The enemy's ships, which were forced out of our harbor yesterday, must be much hindered in their escape to Halifax ; and it is hoped some of our privateers will fall in with them, and bring some of them back as prizes.

Sunday, June 16. — Went to public worship both parts of the day. Firing of cannon heard in the bay this afternoon.

Monday, June 17. — Last night, two transports, a ship and a brig, from Scotland, with about two hundred and twenty Highlanders on board, were chased by three or four of our privateers into Nantasket, where they were both obliged to strike to the American flag. The ship had about seventeen killed and wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell and a number of other officers are among the prisoners. Major Menzies was killed in the engagement. Was at Boston, and saw the officers landed on the Long Wharf: they passed up King Street, in their way to General Ward's. Great numbers of spectators were in the streets at the same time.

Tuesday, June 18. — Went to Boston. A report prevailed the whole day, that a ship off in the bay appeared as if she was a prize, having a schooner alongside of her, which was supposed to be one of our armed vessels; but, towards evening, it was said that the ship was one of the Continental men-of-war.

Wednesday, June 19. — Went to Boston, and had the pleasure of hearing that the ship seen yesterday was a prize; being another Scotch transport, with a hundred and twelve Highlanders on board. She was taken last night, without resistance, a small distance from the lighthouse. Major Menzies was interred with the honors of war.

Thursday, June 20. — Went to Boston. The weather warm, and the ground exceeding dry. The accounts from Canada very disagreeable with respect to our army that way. The Congress have sent to several governments, requesting that the militia march to New York as soon as possible; they having intelligence that the enemy intend an attack upon that place in a few days.

Friday, June 21. — Remained at Dorchester all day.

Saturday, June 22. — Went to Boston: nothing very remarkable.

Sunday, June 23. — Went to public worship both parts of the day. In the afternoon, Mr. Bumstead informed me that he was sent out of Boston, express to Braintree, Hingham, and Weymouth, to acquaint them that eleven large ships, supposed to be transports, were seen in the bay: the wind being westerly, they could not get in.

Monday, June 24. — Went to Boston. Ships seen in the bay; but, as the wind continues about westerly, they could not get in.

Tuesday, June 25. — Went to Boston. The ships remain cruising in the bay, with the wind at the westward. Heard sister Collins was in Boston: she came to Brookline last night.

Wednesday, June 26. — Went to Boston. The wind continues at the westward, and the ships still cruising in the bay: they are discovered to be ten transports, with Highlanders on board, and a frigate, supposed to be thirty-two guns. Mrs. Price went with me to town, expecting to see sister Collins; but was disappointed.

Thursday, June 27. — Remained at Dorchester. The wind at the eastward. About noon, saw eight or nine sail of large ships in the bay.

Friday, June 28. — Went to Boston. Dined at father Avery's, in company with sister Collins: she came with me to Dorchester.

Saturday, June 29. — Went to Boston, and carried sister Collins. Saw a person who left New York last Monday afternoon. By him had several particulars relating the infernal plot contrived by a number of the principal Tories in New York to murder General Washington and a number of our other principal officers there; also to blow up the magazine, &c. Several of them are taken up, and put in irons. May all of them receive a reward due to so hellish a scheme! Sister Collins returned with me to Dorchester.

Sunday, June 30. — Brother and sister Avery spent the day with us; also sister Collins.

Monday, July 1. — Went to Boston, and carried sister Collins. Heard of a prize-brig carried into Salem; another carried into Providence. Heard further particulars concerning the horrid plot at New York.

Tuesday, July 2. — Remained at Dorchester all day. Father Avery visited us this forenoon. Several showers of rain fell, which revives the dry and thirsty ground, almost parched up for want of it.

Wednesday, July 3. — Went to Boston. Nothing remarkable, save probability of the small-pox spreading.

Thursday, July 4. — Went to Boston. Liberty given for to inoculate for the small-pox: many began upon it this afternoon.

Friday, July 5. — Went to Boston. Several hundreds inoculated with the small-pox this day.

Saturday, July 6. — Went to Boston. Inoculating continues.

Sunday, July 7. — Remained at Dorchester, and attended public worship this forenoon. In the afternoon, went with Mrs. Price to Boston. Brother Avery's children inoculated. Returned to Dorchester.

Monday, July 8. — Went to Boston, and carried daughter Polly, in order to be inoculated; which was done by Dr. Gardner this forenoon.

Tuesday, July 9. — Went to Dedham to attend the Court of Common Pleas and Court of Sessions. Expected the vótes for register of deeds would be opened and sorted; but they were not.

Wednesday, July 10. — Went to Boston. Carried Mrs. Harrison, with son Zek, with me, who was inoculated by Dr. Gardner.

Thursday, July 11. — Went to Boston: Mrs. Price went with me. Visited our children, who are bravely.

Friday, July 12. — Went to Boston. Several thousands are supposed to be inoculated in town.

Saturday, July 13. — Went to Boston. Our children are very comfortable. The mail from New York brings the declaration of the Continental Congress for INDEPENDENCE.

Sunday, July 14. — A pleasant day. Nothing remarkable.

Monday, July 15. — Went to Boston with Mrs. Price, in order to remain there until the children had recovered of the small-pox.

Tuesday, July 16. — My family are with brother Avery, at father Avery's house, in Boston.

Wednesday, July 17. — Nothing remarkable. The weather very pleasant.

Thursday, July 18. — This day was proclaimed, from the balcony in the State House in this town, the Declaration of Independence.

Friday, July 19. — The weather exceeding favorable for the great numbers of persons under inoculation.

Saturday, July 20. — It is supposed that persons not belonging to Boston, and now under inoculation there, make more than one-half the whole number.

Sunday, July 21. — A schooner from Martinico, laden with molasses, arrived here. A ship of two hundred tons, laden with pork and butter, sent in as a prize.

Monday, July 22. — Nothing remarkable.

Tuesday, July 23. — Lem^l.[?] Scot came to town from Halifax. He was taken prisoner at the battle on Bunker's Hill.

Wednesday, July 24. —

Thursday, July 25. — It is said that the people of Virginia have agreed upon a new model of government, and chosen Patrick Henry, Esq., governor.

Friday, July 26. —

Saturday, July 27. — By the post, advice of the enemy's attacking a fort, and attempting to land on Sullivan's Island, near Charlestown, S.C., and of their repulse by our army there; also of the brave defence our army made there, and the destruction of some of the enemy's men-of-war.

Sunday, July 28. — In the Newport papers are Lord Howe's circular letter to the Colonies, and his declaration of pardon, &c.

Monday, July 29. — Brought to town Benjamin Davis and a number of other Tories, who were committed to jail. They were taken in a ship from Halifax to New York: she had a valuable cargo on board.

Tuesday, July 30. — Son Zek inoculated a second time, as the doctor was in doubt whether the pox had taken him by the former inoculation. Colonel Lemuel Robinson, who died of the small-pox, buried this evening.

Wednesday, July 31. — By the post, we hear that Lord Dunmore has been drove from his post on Gwin's Island in Virginia, with loss, and that two or three tenders had fallen into the hands of our army there; also a large transport-ship much damaged. A schooner, laden with salt and rum, taken, and brought in here.

Thursday, Aug. 1. — A general fast. Two gentlemen from New York say that our army there and in the neighborhood amount to about forty thousand; and that preparations are making there to destroy the enemy's ships, which got up the river.

Friday, Aug. 2. — Several persons inoculated for the small-pox are taken with it in the natural way, and very full: some have lately died with it.

Saturday, Aug. 3. — By the post, reported that eight row-galleys had sailed up North River in order to burn or destroy the men-of-war which had got up there.

Sunday, Aug. 4. — A very pleasant morning. The body of a man found drowned near New Boston.

Monday, Aug. 5. —

Tuesday, Aug. 6. —

Wednesday, Aug. 7. — Colonel Sergeant's and Whitcomb's regiments set off on their march for Crown Point. A large prize-ship, laden with sugars, &c., sent into Portsmouth.

Thursday, Aug. 8. — Colonel Phinney's regiment marched for Crown Point.

Friday, Aug. 9. —

Saturday, Aug. 10. — Sent in here a prize-ship, bound from Jamaica to London, laden with cotton, wool, sugar, &c.

Sunday, Aug. 11. — The Declaration of Independence was this day [read] in the several churches in this town.

Monday, Aug. 12. — A prize brig and schooner sent into Salem by Captain Fisk.

Tuesday, Aug. 13. — Went to Dedham to attend the court.

Wednesday, Aug. 14. — The day was celebrated as the first opposition to the Stamp Act.

Thursday, Aug. 15. — Heard great preparations were making by Lord Howe to attack the American Army at New York.

Friday, Aug. 16. — It is said that a considerable number of vessels were gone from Connecticut to New York to be employed as fire-ships.

Saturday, Aug. 17. — The post brings letters from New York, which mention that a part, if not all, the Hessians had joined Lord Howe, and an attack upon New York was expected every hour.

Sunday, Aug. 18. —

*Barbé de Marbois to Count de Vergennes.**

Translation, No. 225.

PHILADELPHIA, March 13, 1782.

SIR, — South Carolina again enjoys the benefit of a legislative body, after having been deprived of it for two years. It was summoned together toward the end of last year, and met in January at

* This letter of Marbois, though often referred to, is rarely found to have a place among the many printed collections of papers relating to the Revolution. It may be found in Pitkin's "Political and Civil History of the United States of America," ii. 528-531; and also in the "Life of John Jay, by his son, William Jay," i. 490-494. The manuscript copy from which we print must have been made soon after the date of the letter. A few verbal variations from the copy in Pitkin or Jay may be noticed. The letter was originally written in cipher, and was intercepted by the English.

This copy was put into the hands of our Corresponding Member, Prof. George Washington Greene (who is now engaged in writing the memoirs of his grandfather, General Greene of the Revolution), for examination; and he has returned it with the following note: —

"Barbé de Marbois, count and marquis, was for many years Consul-General of France in the United States; and, during occasional absences of the minister, *chargé d'affaires*. This letter was written to Count Vergennes; and, being intercepted by the English, was used by their commissioners during the negotiation of the treaty of 1783, in order to confirm in the minds of the American commissioners that distrust

Jacksonborough, only ten leagues distant from Charlestown, where deliberations are carried on with as much tranquillity as if the State were in profound peace. Mr. Rutledge, who was then governor, opened the meeting with a speech, greatly applauded, wherein he represents, in their full extent, the important services rendered by the king to the United States, expressing their just acknowledgments for the same. This sentiment prevails much, sir. The different States are eager to declare it in their public acts; and the principal members of government, and the writers employed by them, would forfeit their popularity, were they to admit any equivocal remarks respecting the alliance. General Greene affirms, that in no one State is attachment to independency carried to a higher pitch, but that this affection is exceeded by the hatred borne to England. The Assembly of Carolina is going to make levies of men, and has imposed pretty large sums. As there is but little money in the country, the taxes will be gathered in indigo; and what deficiency may then be found will be supplied by the sale of lands of such Carolinians as joined the enemy while they were in possession of the country. South Carolina was the only State that had not confiscated the property of the disaffected. The step just taken puts her upon a footing with the other States of the Union. The Assembly of this State has passed a resolution, in consequence of which a purchase of land is to be made, of the value of two hundred and forty thousand livres tournois, which Carolina makes a present of to General Greene, as the savior of that province. Mr. Mathews, a delegate lately arrived in Carolina from Congress, has, it is said, been chosen governor in the room of Mr. Rutledge. He has communicated to persons of the most influence in

towards their allies, the French, which it had been one of the constant endeavors of the English to excite.

"Marbois was a good diplomatist, a man of much learning and extensive observation; and, although this letter can hardly be taken as a proof of it, he was a true friend of the United States. His policy was that of a Frenchman, who preferred France to America; and who, interpreting the treaty of 1777 literally, thought, that, if France fulfilled her part of the contract, America had no right to ask for any thing more."

To this notice of Marbois it may be added, that his name has other interesting associations with our history. Mr. Jefferson tells us that it was "in answer to inquiries of M. de Marbois, as to the natural and political state of Virginia," which led him, in the year 1781, while confined to his room by a fall from his horse, to write his "Notes on Virginia." — *Writings of Jefferson*, edited by H. A. Washington, ii. 177, 178.

In 1803, Marbois was selected by Bonaparte to negotiate a treaty with the United States for the sale of Louisiana, of which country he subsequently wrote a history, embracing an account of that negotiation.

his State the *ultimatum* of the month of — last, who approved of the clauses in general, and particularly that one which leaves the king master of the terms of the treaty of peace or truce, excepting independence, and treaties of alliance. A delegate from South Carolina told me that this *ultimatum* was equally known by persons of note in this State, and that it had given entire satisfaction there. It is the same with regard to several other States; and I believe I may assure you, upon the testimony of several delegates, that this measure is approved by a great majority. But Mr. Samuel Adams is using all his endeavors to raise in the State of Massachusetts a strong opposition to peace, if the Eastern States are not thereby admitted to the fisheries, and in particular to that of Newfoundland. Mr. Adams delights in trouble and difficulty, and prides himself on forming an opposition against the Government whereof he himself is President. His aim and intention are to render the minority of consequence; and, at this very moment, he is attacking the Constitution of Massachusetts, although it be in a great measure his own work; but he has disliked it since the people have shown their uniform attachment to it. It may be expected, that, with this disposition, no measures can meet with the approbation of Mr. Samuel Adams; and if the United States should agree relative to the fisheries, and be certain of partaking therein, all his manœuvres and intrigues would be directed toward the conquest of Canada and Nova Scotia: but he could not have used a fitter engine than the fisheries for stirring up the passions of the Eastern people, by renewing this question which had lain dormant during his two years' absence from Boston. He has raised the expectations of the people of Massachusetts to an extraordinary pitch. The public prints held forth the importance of the fisheries: the reigning toast in the East is, "May the United States ever retain their right to the fisheries!" It has been repeated in the deliberations of the General Court, "No peace without the fisheries." However clear the principle may be in this matter, it would be useless, and even dangerous, to attempt informing the people through the public papers; but it appears to me possible to use means for preventing the consequences of success to Mr. Samuel Adams and his party, and I take the liberty of submitting them to your discernment and indulgence. One of those means would be for the king to cause it to be intimated to Congress or the ministers, "his surprise that the Newfoundland fisheries have been included in the additional instructions; that the United States set forth therein pretensions without paying a

regard to the king's rights, and without considering the impossibility they are under of making conquest of, and keeping, what belongs to Great Britain." His majesty might at the same time cause a promise to be given to Congress, "of his assistance for procuring admission to the other fisheries; declaring, however, that he would not be responsible for the success, and that he is bound to nothing, as the treaty makes no mention of that article." This declaration being made before the peace, the hopes of the people could not be supported, nor would it one day hereafter be said that we left them in the dark on this point: it were even to be wished that this declaration should be made while New York, Charlestown, and Penobscot are in the enemies' hands. Our allies will be less tractable than ever upon those points, whenever they recover these important posts. There are some judicious persons to whom one may speak of giving up the fisheries and the — of the West, for the sake of peace; but there are enthusiasts who fly out at this idea, and their numbers cannot fail of increasing, when, after the English are expelled this continent, the burdens of the war will scarce be felt. It is already observable, that the advocates for peace are of those who live in the country: the inhabitants of towns, whom commerce enriches; mechanics, who receive there a higher pay than before the war, and five or six times more than in Europe, — do not wish for it. But it is a happy circumstance, that this division be nearly equal in Congress and among the States; since our influence can incline the beam either for peace or war, whichever way we may choose. Another means of preserving to France so important a branch of the commerce and navigation is that proposed to you, sir, by Mr. —; viz., the conquest of Cape Breton. It seems to me, as it does to that minister, the only sure means of containing within bounds, when peace is made, those swarms of smugglers, who, without regard to treaties, will turn all their activity, daring spirit, and means toward the fisheries; whose undertakings Congress will not perhaps have the power or the will to repress. If it be apprehended that the peace which is to put an end to the present war will prove disagreeable to any of the United States, there appears to me a certain method of guarding against the effects of this discontent, of preventing the declarations of some States, and other resources which turbulent minds might employ for availing themselves of the present juncture. This would be for his majesty to cause a memorial to be delivered to Congress, wherein

should be stated the use made by his ministers of the powers intrusted to them by that assembly, and the impediments which may have stood in the way of a fuller satisfaction in every point. This step would certainly be pleasing to Congress; and, should it become necessary to inform the people of this memorial, it could easily be done. They would be flattered by it, and it might probably beget the voice and concurrence of the public. I submit these thoughts to you early. The peace appears yet to be distant, sir, by reason of the delays and difficulties attending the communications. That period will be a crisis, when the partisans of France and England will openly appear, and when that power will employ every means to diminish our influence, and re-establish her own. It is true, the independent party will always stand in great want of our support; that the fears and jealousies which a remembrance of the former government will always produce must operate as the safeguard to our alliance, and as a security for the attachment of the Americans to us: but it is best to be prepared for any discontent, although it should be but temporary. It is remarked by some, that, as England has other fisheries besides Newfoundland, she may perhaps endeavor that the Americans should partake in that of the Grand Bank, in order to conciliate their affection, or procure them some compensation, or create a subject of jealousy between them and us: but it does not seem likely that she will act so contrary to her true interest; and, were she to do so, it will be for the better to have declared, at an early period, to the Americans, that their pretension is not founded, and that his majesty does not mean to support it. I have enclosed, sir, translations of the speech made by the Governor of South Carolina to the Assembly, and their answer. These interesting productions convey in a forcible manner the sentiments of the inhabitants of that State, and appeared to me worth communicating to you.

I am, &c.,

BARBÉ DE MARBOIS.

Eleazer Richard's Receipt for King Philip's Bowl.

Plymouth Sep. 14.th 1803. — Rec^d of Isaac Lothrop Eight Dollars, in full for a wooden bowle, formerly belonging to that illustrious Soldier, known by the name of King Philip, son of the celebrated indian Sachem, Massasoiet, and was a portion of the trophy assigned to Eleazer Richard, Great Grandfather of the Subscriber, who made one of the party, that terminated the existence of the once princely proprietor.

ELEAZER ^{his} + RICHARD
mark.

Mr. Richard, above named, was taught to write ; but is so crippled in his arm as to be scarcely able to make his mark.*

The President communicated a note received by him from Mr. Everett, expressing his regret that he will be unable to attend the meeting of the Society to join in the tribute of respect proposed to be paid to Lord Lyndhurst.

Mr. DEANE communicated several original letters of Phillis Wheatley, the negro-slave poet of Boston ; and remarked as follows : —

At the last meeting of this Society, the President read from the original manuscript a poem of Phillis Wheatley, found among the papers of his ancestor, Governor Bowdoin. This recalled to my mind a letter of hers, placed in my hands some years ago, which seemed to me at the time to indicate much maturity of mind, and refinement and delicacy of feeling and character. Of this letter I kept a copy. Since the last meeting, six additional letters of Phillis's, in her own handwriting, have been placed at my disposal by the same person †

* All in the handwriting of Isaac Lothrop, Esq., of Plymouth, an early member of this Society, who died 25th July, 1808, and of whom a biographical notice will be found in 2 Mass. Hist. Coll., i. 258-260.

† The letters were put into my hands by the Rev. Edward E. Hale, one of our associates, who kindly procured them for my use from Mrs. William Beecher, of Brookfield,

who favored me with the former letter; and the Society has liberty to take copies of them all for its own use, if it shall see fit to do so. I have thought it desirable that they should somehow be preserved; for, so far as my observation extends, but few letters of this remarkable person are extant. Indeed, with the exception of the brief note to Washington which accompanied the poem she addressed to him while he was in Cambridge in 1775, and which was published in the "Pennsylvania Magazine, or American Monthly Museum," for April, 1776, I have never met with any of her letters in print. What judgment, therefore, has hitherto been formed of her literary attainments, and of the strength and general culture of her intellect, has probably been derived chiefly from her poems. At a moment, too, when so much attention is drawn to the colored race, I feel that I need not apologize for occupying so much of the time of members as to call their attention to the letters of one of this class (who, nearly a century ago, was the object of so much attraction both here and in England), and to read some portion of them to the meeting.

These letters, which are written in a beautiful hand, are addressed to a negro friend in Newport, R. I. (a young

to whom they belong. In a letter to Mr. Hale, dated October 23, 1863, enclosing the six letters from Phillis Wheatley to Obour Tanner, this lady writes:—

"They were given to me ages since by the person to whom they were addressed. She was then a very little, very old, very infirm, very, *very* black woman, with a great shock of the whitest of wool all over her head,—a picture well photographed on my mind's eye. . . She died in the odor of sanctity, sometime in 1833 or '4, an uncommonly pious, sensible, and intelligent woman, respected and visited by every person in Newport who could appreciate excellence.

"Obour gave me also one of Phillis Wheatley's books, which I read with pleasure, and almost wonder, quite through: but, to my lasting chagrin, it was soon lost,—either mislaid, or spirited away somehow; and it is long years since I have seen token of it. I have no doubt, however, that many copies of it are still extant among the old residents in Newport, as you will observe, from one of the letters, it was published by subscription.

"You will notice, also, that Phillis speaks of 'Mr. John Peters,' 'a complaisant and agreeable young man,' 'an acquaintance' of Obour's, &c. This was the man she married. . . . Obour informed me, pious soul as she was, with more than a gleam of that aristocracy of feeling, if not *hauteur*, which sits so curiously on those full-blooded creatures, that 'poor Phillis let herself down by marrying: yes, ma'am.' It

woman named Obour Tanner), probably serving in the same capacity as Phillis herself; and, from some expressions in the first letter, it may be inferred that they were both brought from Africa, and perhaps at the same time. This and the next following letter were written in 1772, when Phillis was about eighteen years of age. She was brought to this country in the year 1761, when she was, as is supposed, between seven and eight years old; and was purchased by Mr. John Wheatley, a respectable citizen of Boston, for his wife, who, it is said, was desirous of obtaining a young negress to bring up under her own eye, in order that she might "secure for herself a faithful domestic in her old age. She visited the slave-market [in Boston] to make a personal selection from the group of unfortunates offered for sale." Her choice fell upon Phillis, who appeared to be a delicate child, being influenced in her selection "by the humble and modest demeanor and interesting features of the little stranger." The child soon gave indications of unusual intelligence, and well repaid the attentions bestowed upon her.*

is just possible, however, that this opinion might have originated in her own condition of single blessedness, but not probably so, as I heard the same thing expressed frequently by old people in Newport who remembered the circumstances. Phillis lived some twelve or fifteen years after her marriage; and died in 1794 or 5, a little more than forty years of age.

"Perhaps more details, and letters and books as well, might be gleaned in Newport: but the old class who knew Phillis when I lived there a young woman must have greatly passed away; and I cannot, at this distance of time, designate any one who could assist such an investigation."

Mrs. Beecher, as will be seen, errs as to the time of Phillis's death.

* A Memoir of Phillis, without the name of the author, was published in Boston, in 1834, by George W. Light, prefixed to a new edition of the Poems. It was written by Miss Margaretta Matilda Odell, of Jamaica Plain, who says that the facts therein stated "were derived from grand-nieces of Phillis's benefactress, who are still living," and "corroborated by a grand-daughter of that lady, now residing in Boston." I long had had the impression, that this Memoir, or at least a memoir of Phillis, was written by the late B. B. Thatcher; and, in Duyckinck's "Encyclopædia" (i. 369), it is stated that a brief memoir by this gentleman was published by Light in 1834. It is also stated in the new "American Encyclopædia," in the notice of Thatcher, that he wrote such a memoir, published that year. Mr. Light, however, assures me that this is a mistake. He says that Mr. Thatcher interested himself in the publication of the work, and overlooked the manuscript (which he remembers as being in Miss Odell's handwriting);

The health of Phillis was always delicate; and, in the spring of 1773, it was decided to send her on a voyage to England,

giving it an editor's supervision, but nothing more. I subsequently called Mr. Light's attention to an advertisement (at the end of the second edition of the same Memoir, published by his house, "Light and Horton," in 1835) which gives a list of the works published by them. The first book on the list is, "Memoir of Phillis Wheatley, a Native African and a Slave. By B. B. Thatcher. Adapted to general Readers and Sabbath Schools. With a well-executed Portrait. 18mo, cloth." On the next page is advertised the "Memoir and Poems. . . . By a Relative of the Mistress of Phillis," &c. This would indicate two memoirs,—one by Thatcher, separate from the Poems; and one by a descendant of Mrs. Wheatley, with the Poems. But Mr. Light still assures me, that there was no memoir published separately from the Poems, and that Mr. Thatcher was not the author of any memoir of Phillis published by his house. He writes to me under the date of 28d March, 1864: "As to the Memoir, I am perfectly sure Mr. Thatcher never did more than *edit* the book. The blunder in advertising must have been made in my absence. I recollect making some alterations in punctuation; while Mr. T. made a few alterations in the *words* of the manuscript, written in Miss Odell's handwriting. So you may rest assured that what I have stated to you is correct." I would add, that the concluding paragraph of this Memoir reveals the sex of the writer: "The author of this memoir is a collateral descendant of Mrs. Wheatley, and has been familiar with the name and fame of Phillis from her childhood."

The following notice of Phillis, written by our associate, Dr. Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, appeared in the "Boston Daily Advertiser" on the 21st of December, 1863. It contains some facts not related by her biographer. The occasion of its appearance was the issue at this time of some copies remaining on hand of what is called the "third edition" of the "Memoir and Poems of Phillis Wheatley," which had been published in 1838. Dr. Shurtleff was not present at the meeting of the Society at which the letters of Phillis were produced, and was ignorant of the existence of such memorials when he prepared his article.

"PHILLIS WHEATLEY, THE NEGRO-SLAVE POET.—The recent appearance in print of the poetical writings of Phillis, the negro servant of Mr. John Wheatley of Boston, leads me to present at this time a few facts relating to this remarkable woman, which are not generally known, and some of which have escaped the notice of her biographers.

"Phillis is supposed to have been about seven years of age when she was stolen from her parents in Africa, and brought to Boston, in the year 1761, to be sold as a slave. Fortunately, at that time, a benevolent woman, the wife of John Wheatley, a tailor, dwelling in Boston, was in need of a domestic possessing traits of disposition which would make her an agreeable companion, rather than a drudge and servant of all work. Phillis, being of feeble constitution, and very gentle in her demeanor, appeared to be just the person Mrs. Wheatley required; and was therefore purchased of the slave-dealer, and taken home; where, after decent clothing had superseded her miserable rags, she gave evidence of vivacity of genius, a superiority of intellect, good personal appearance, and affectionate disposition, which surprised and gratified not only the family in which she was domesticated, but also the principal personages of the town who were frequent visitors to Mr. Wheatley's hospitable mansion in King Street, then noted as much for its grand residences, as it now is, under the name of State Street, for its commercial and banking offices.

"The family consisted then of Mr. Wheatley, his wife Susannah, and their son Nathaniel, and daughter Mary, with a few slaves who had grown old in service, and

in company with a son of Mr. Wheatley, who, with his family, was about to take up his residence in London. The time

who could not be relied upon for the time when the old folks should come to their dotage, and the young folks should leave the mansion of their parents to become the heads of other families. Nathaniel and Mary were twins, and were born on the 4th of May, 1743: the other children of Mrs. Wheatley, born subsequently, — Sarah, John, and Susannah, — had died in youth.

“Miss Mary, then eighteen years old, took charge of the new inmate of the family: and so rapid was the young negress in the acquisition of learning, that, in less than a year and a half from the time of her importation, she could converse fluently in English (a language she had never heard spoken before she was kidnapped), and could read and correctly pronounce the most difficult passages of the sacred writings; and, before she had been under pupilage ten years, she wrote letters and poetry that astonished the literary men of New England, who were then numerous, and had acquired for the metropolis the name of the modern Athens.

“On the 31st of January, 1771, when about seventeen years of age, Phillis was called to suffer her first grief. Her young mistress was taken from the family to become the wife of Rev. John Lathrop, the pastor of the Second Church in Boston. This event may have led her to the step which she took on the 18th of the following August; for then, under the simple and unpretending name of ‘Phillis, the servant of Mr. Wheatley,’ with no surname whatever, she became a communicant of the Old South Church in Boston, then destitute of a settled minister, but which had lately experienced the excellent teachings of Rev. Dr. Joseph Sewall. About this time, Phillis began to fail in health; and in 1773 her decline became so apparent, that, by the advice of friends, she left Boston, to visit England, in company with Mr. Nathaniel Wheatley and his family; he going to London to open a branch of his mercantile business, which had already become large for a New-Englander. While in England, she received much attention from the patrons of literature; and there her poems, which were bringing her into considerable note, were published: but she was soon recalled to Boston to attend the sick-bed of her mistress.

“Some time after her return to Boston, her volume of poems was offered for sale; the following advertisement appearing in the ‘Boston Gazette’ of January 24, 1774, and in the other papers published about that time:—

THIS DAY PUBLISHED,
Adorn'd with an Elegant Engraving of the Author,
[Price 3s. 4d. L. M. Bound,]

P O E M S,

on various subjects, — Religious and Moral,

By PHILLIS WHEATLEY, a Negro Girl.

Sold by Mess'rs COX & BERRY,
at their Store, in King-street, Boston.

N. B. The Subscribers are requested to apply for their copies.

“Mrs. Wheatley, her kind friend as well as mistress, died, in the sixty-fifth year of her age, on the 3d of March, in the year 1774; and Mr. Wheatley, on the 12th of March, 1778, aged seventy-two. This left Phillis alone: the old folks were dead; Mary had become the wife of Rev. Mr. Lathrop; and Mr. Nathaniel was already married, and residing in London. At this sad hour of her existence, she became acquainted with a ‘colored gentleman,’ John Peters, whom she married in April, 1778, about a month after her kind master's decease. He was indeed a colored gentleman; for report says of him that he kept a shop, wore a wig, carried a cane, and felt himself superior to all

of their embarkation may be inferred from her poem, "A Farewell to America," addressed to "S. W." (probably Susannah Wheatley, her mistress), and dated "Boston, May 7, 1773." We have no means of knowing how long she remained in London; but her stay must have been very brief. It is said she was suddenly called home by the alarming illness of her mistress; and from one of her letters written after her

kinds of labor. At the time of her marriage, she was styled 'a free negro;' and it is supposed that Mrs. Lathrop, who became her owner at the decease of her father, gave Phillis her freedom, perhaps in words similar to those of Rev. Increase Mather, who manumitted his slave with the following words in his will: 'It is my mind and will that my negro servant, called Spaniard, shall not be sold after my decease; but I do then give him his liberty; let him then be esteemed a "free negro."' "

"Sadder times, however, came to Phillis. A few months later, she lost her kind young friend: for Mrs. Lathrop died at the age of thirty-five, on the 24th of September, 1778; and she was left entirely to her miserable husband, who proved to be improvident; failing in business, and becoming too lazy to do any thing that would conduce to her comfort in the days of her sickness and sorrow. In the summer of 1783, Mr. Nathaniel Wheatley also died, the last of her natural protectors; and about this time she lost two of the three children born to her and her husband in their days of extreme poverty and distress. Soon after, in 1784, her husband had become so shiftless and improvident, that he was forced to relieve himself of debt by an imprisonment in the county jail;* and she, poor Phillis! was obliged to earn her own subsistence in a common negro boarding-house, at the west part of the town. And now her disease rapidly increased; and on the 5th of December, 1784, at the early age of thirty-one years, poor Phillis Peters, *alias* Wheatley, drew her last breath, and soon, together with her last offspring, which seemed to have been left till then to make the occasion more mournful, was carried to her last earthly resting-place, without one of the friends of her prosperity to follow her, and without a stone to mark her grave.

"All that is known of the death and burial of this talented person may be summed up in the following notice published on the Thursday succeeding her decease, in the 'Independent Chronicle: 'Last Lord's day, died Mrs. Phillis Peters (formerly Phillis Wheatley), aged thirty-one, known to the literary world by her celebrated miscellaneous poems. Her funeral is to be this afternoon, at four o'clock, from the house lately improved by Mr. Todd, nearly opposite Dr. Bulfinch's, at West Boston, where her friends and acquaintances are desired to attend.' The house thus referred to was situated on or near the present site of the Revere House, in Bowdoin Square, formerly known at times as a portion of Cambridge Street, and sometimes as the westerly end of Court Street.

"Could the spot of her burial be found, there could be no more befitting epitaph than the following expressive words from her own pen:—

'Remember, Christians, negroes black as Cain
May be refined, and join the angelic train.' "

N. B. S.

* "Soon after his liberation from jail, Peters worked as a journeyman baker. Subsequently he attempted to practise law, and finally imposed upon the credulous by pretending to be a physician."

return to Boston, dated October 30, 1773, we should infer that she had then been at home some weeks. Mrs. Wheatley survived Phillis's return some months. She died in March of the next year. A few years afterward, on the death of Mr. Wheatley, Phillis married a person of her own race and color, whose name was John Peters. This was in 1778. The marriage was an unhappy one. Her husband is said to have been unworthy of her. She had children who probably did not survive her; and after living for some years, often in a state of destitution, she died in Boston on the 5th of December, 1784.

This brief account of Phillis is given as introducing her letters to the notice of the Society.

To Arbour Tanner, in Newport.

BOSTON May 19th 1772.

DEAR SISTER, — I rec'd your favour of February 6th for which I give you my sincere thanks. I greatly rejoice with you in that realizing view, and I hope experience, of the saving change which you so emphatically describe. Happy were it for us if we could arrive to that evangelical Repentance, and the true holiness of heart which you mention. Inexpressibly happy should we be could we have a due sense of the beauties and excellence of the crucified Saviour. In his Crucifixion may be seen marvellous displays of Grace and Love, sufficient to draw and invite us to the rich and endless treasures of his mercy; let us rejoice in and adore the wonders of God's infinite Love in bringing us from a land semblant of darkness ~~it~~self, and where the divine light of revelation (being obscur'd) is as darkness. Here the knowledge of the true God and eternal life are made manifest; but there, profound ignorance overshadows the land. Your observation is true, namely, that there was nothing in us to recommend us to God. Many of our fellow creatures are pass'd by, when the bowels of divine love expanded towards us. May this goodness & long suffering of God lead us to unfeign'd repentance.

It gives me very great pleasure to hear of so many of my nation, seeking with eagerness the way to true felicity. O may we all meet at length in that happy mansion. I hope the correspondence between us will continue, (my being much indispos'd this winter past, was the

reason of my not answering yours before now) which correspondence I hope may have the happy effect of improving our mutual friendship. Till we meet in the regions of consummate blessedness, let us endeavor by the assistance of divine grace, to live the life, and we shall die the death of the Righteous. May this be our happy case, and of those who are travelling to the region of Felicity, is the earnest request of your affectionate

Friend & humble servant

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

*To Arbour Tanner, in Newport. To the care of Mr. Pease's Servant.
Rhode Island.*

BOSTON, July 19th, 1772.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I rec'd your kind epistle a few days ago; much disappointed to hear that you had not rec'd my answer to your first letter. I have been in a very poor state of health all the past winter and spring, and now reside in the country for the benefit of its more wholesome air. I came to town this morning to spend the Sabbath with my master and mistress. Let me be interested in your prayers that God would please to bless to me the means us'd for my recovery, if agreeable to his holy will. While my outward man languishes under weakness and pa[in], may the inward be refresh'd and strengthen'd more abundantly by him who declar'd from heaven that his strength was made perfect in weakness! May he correct our vitiated taste, that the meditation of him may be delightful to us. No longer to be so excessively charm'd with fleeting vanities: but pressing forward to the fix'd mark for the prize. How happy that man who is prepar'd for that night wherein no man can work! Let us be mindful of our high calling, continually on our guard, lest our treacherous hearts should give the adversary an advantage over us. O! who can think without horror of the snares of the Devil. Let us, by frequent meditation on the eternal Judgment, prepare for it. May the Lord bless to us these thoughts, and teach us by his Spirit to live to him alone, and when we leave this world may we be his. That this may be our happy case, is the sincere desire

of, your affectionate friend, & humble serv't,

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

I sent the letter to Mr. Whitwell's who said he wou'd forward it.

To Obour Tanner, in New Port.

BOSTON Oct. 30, 1773.

DEAR OBOUR, — I rec'd your most kind epistles of Aug^t 27th, & Oct. 13th, by a young man of your acquaintance, for which I am oblig'd to you. I hear of your welfare with pleasure; but this acquaints you that I am at present indispos'd by a cold, & since my arrival have been visited by the asthma.

Your observations on our dependence on the Deity, & your hopes that my wants will be supply'd from his fulness which is in Christ Jesus, is truly worthy of your self. I can't say but my voyage to England has conduced to the recovery (in a great measure) of my health. The friends I found there among the nobility and gentry, their benevolent conduct towards me, the unexpected and unmerited civility and complaisance with which I was treated by all, fills me with astonishment. I can scarcely realize it. This I humbly hope has the happy effect of lessening me in my own esteem. Your reflections on the sufferings of the Son of God, & the inestimable price of our immortal souls, plainly demonstrate the sensations of a soul united to Jesus. What you observe of Esau is true of all mankind, who, (left to themselves) would sell their heavenly birth rights for a few moments of sensual pleasure, whose wages at last (dreadful wages!) is eternal condemnation. Dear Obour, let us not sell our birthright for a thousand worlds, which indeed would be as dust upon the balance. The God of the seas and dry land, has graciously brought me home in safety. Join with me in thanks to him for so great a mercy, & that it may excite me to praise him with cheerfulness, to persevere in Grace & Faith, & in the knowledge of our Creator and Redeemer, — that my heart may be fill'd with gratitude. I should have been pleas'd greatly to see Miss West, as I imagine she knew you. I have been very busy ever since my arrival, or should have now wrote a more particular account of my voyage, but must submit that satisfaction to some other opportunity. I am Dear friend,

Most affectionately ever yours.

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

My mistress has been very sick above 14 weeks, & confined to her bed the whole time, but is I hope somewhat better, now.

The young man by whom this is handed you seems to me to be a very clever man, knows you very well, & is very complaisant and agreeable.

P. W.

I enclose Proposals for my book,* and beg you'd use your interest to get subscriptions, as it is for my benefit.

* This refers to the first edition of Phillis's collected Poems, which was printed in London, in 1773. The title of the volume is as follows: "Poems || on || various subjects, || religious and moral. || By || Phillis Wheatley, || Negro Servant to Mr. John Wheatley, || of Boston, in New England. || London: || Printed for A. Bell, Bookseller, Aldgate; and sold by || Messrs Cox and Berry, King Street, Boston. || MDCCLXXIII." It contained an engraved portrait of the author, said to be a good likeness, beneath which is the following inscription: "Published according to Act of Parliament, Sept^r 1st, 1773 by Arch^d Bell. Bookseller N^o 8 near the Saracens Head Aldgate." Phillis's autograph was written on the back of the titlepage of many of the copies. The publication of her poems in London appears to have been contemplated the year before, and may have been in progress before her visit to England. The volume was probably in the course of publication or of printing while Phillis was there. The dedication to the Countess of Huntingdon, which bears date "Boston, June 12, 1773," may have been written while she was in London. She was probably there at this time. Copies of the work were received here in the early part of the next year. Messrs. Cox and Berry, of King Street, whose names were upon the titlepage, advertised the book, February 8, 1764, as published that day; and subscribers were requested to call for their copies.

The next edition of the Poems, of which I have seen notice, was published by Barber and Southwick, for Thomas Spencer, bookseller, Market Street, Albany, in 1793. See Duyckinck's *Cyclopædia*, i. 369.

An edition was printed in Philadelphia in 1801, "by and for William W. Woodward, No. 17, Chestnut Street." It was printed at the end of the second volume (and paged continuously) of a work entitled "The Negro equalled by few Europeans;" a Romance, translated from the French, and published in London, in three volumes, in 1790. The Philadelphia edition of this Romance was in two volumes.

An edition was printed at "Walpole, N.H. Printed for Thomas & Thomas. By David Newhall, 1802."

The two editions last named are in the possession of Dr. Shurtleff, of Boston.

The next edition of the Poems which I have met with is that published by George W. Light, in Boston, in 1834, to which was first prefixed the Memoir of Phillis, above referred to. This contained a lithographed copy of the portrait published in the first edition.

Another edition (a second) of the Memoir and Poems, united, was published by Light & Horton in 1835.

A third edition of the "Memoir and Poems" was published by Isaac Knapp, Boston, 1838. This edition contains, at the end of the Memoir, the letter of Washington to Phillis, taken from Mr. Sparks's edition of his writings, iii. 297, 298. It contains also a number of poems by a slave, George, the property of Mr. James Horton, of Chatham County, N.C. Some of the oversheets of this edition came into the possession of Mr. George W. Light, the publisher of the first edition of the Memoir; and, by reprinting a few pages that were wanting, he was able to make up some two hundred copies, which have been placed on sale within a few months past.

To Miss Obour Tanner. Newport.

BOSTON, March 21, 1774.

DEAR OBOUR, — I rec'd your obliging letter, enclos'd in your revd Pastor's & handed me by his son. I have lately met with a great trial in the death of my mistress; let us imagine the loss of a parent, sister, or brother, the tenderness of all these were united in her. I was a poor little outcast & a stranger when she took me in: not only into her house, but I presently became a sharer in her most tender affections. I was treated by her more like her child than her servant; no opportunity was left unimproved of giving me the best of advice; but in terms how tender! how engaging! This I hope ever to keep in remembrance. Her exemplary life was a greater monitor than all her precepts and instruction; thus we may observe of how much greater force example is than instruction. To alleviate our sorrows we had the satisfaction to see her depart in inexpressible raptures, earnest longings, & impatient thirstings for the *upper* courts of the Lord. Do, my dear friend, remember me & this family in your closet, that this afflicting dispensation may be sanctify'd to us. I am very sorry to hear that you are indispos'd, but hope this will find you in better health. I have been unwell the greater part of the winter, but am much better as the spring approaches. Pray excuse my not writing to you so long before, for I have been so busy lately that I could not find leisure. I shall send the 5 books you wrote for, the first convenient opportunity; if you want more, they shall be ready for you. I am very affectionately your friend,

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

To Miss Obour Tanner, New Port, Rhode Island. favd by Mr. Pemberton.

DEAR OBOUR, — I rec'd last evening your kind & friendly letter and am not a little animated thereby. I hope ever to follow your good advices and be resigned to the afflicting hand of a seemingly frowning Providence. I have rec'd the money you sent for the 5 books & $\frac{2}{3}$ more for another, which I now send & wish safe to hand. Your tenderness for my welfare demands my gratitude Assist me, dear Obour! to praise our great benefactor, for the innumerable benefits continually pour'd upon me, that while he strikes one comfort *dead*

he raises up another. But O that I could dwell on & delight in him alone above every other object! While the world hangs loose about us we shall not be in painful *anxiety* in giving up to God that which he first gave to us. Your letter came by Mr. Pemberton who brings you the book you write for. I shall wait upon Mr. Whitwell with your letter and am

Dear sister, ever affectionately, your

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

I have rec'd by some of the last ships 300 more of my Poems.

Boston May 6, 1774.

Miss Obour Tanner, Worcester.

Boston May 29th '78.

DEAR OBOUR, — I am exceedingly glad to hear from you by Mrs. Tanner, and wish you had timely notice of her departure, so as to have wrote me; next to that is the pleasure of hearing that you are well. The vast variety of scenes that have pass'd before us these 3 years past, will to a reasonable mind serve to convince us of the uncertain duration of all things temporal, and the proper result of such a consideration is an ardent desire of, & preparation for, a state and enjoyments which are more suitable to the immortal mind. You will do me a great favour if you'll write me by every opportunity. Direct your letters under cover to Mr. John Peters in Queen Street. I have but half an hour's notice; and must apologize for this hasty scrawl. I am most affectionately, My dear Obour, your sincere friend

PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

Miss Obour Tanner, Worcester. favd by Cumberland.

Boston May 10, 1779.

DR. OBOUR, — By this opportunity I have the pleasure to inform you that I am well and hope you are so; tho' I have been silent, I have not been unmindful of you, but a variety of hindrances was the cause of my not writing to you. But in time to come I hope our correspondence will revive — and revive in better times — pray write me soon, for I long to hear from you — you may depend on constant replies — I wish you much happiness, and am

Dr. Obour, your friend & sister

PHILLIS PETERS.

Mr. QUINCY expressed much interest in the letters of Phillis Wheatley which had been read; and remarked, that he well remembered the man (Peters) whom she married; that he, at one time, practised law, or professed to; and Mr. Quincy had met him in the courtroom.

DECEMBER MEETING.

A stated meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, Dec. 10, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

Donations were announced from the New-England Loyal Publication Society; Oberlin College; the Trustees of the Redwood Library; the Society of Arts, Commerce, and Manufactures, London; the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History; the Trustees of the Vermont State Library; the Corporation of Yale College; the publishers of the "Journal de l'Instruction Publique;" Mr. C. C. Coffin; Mr. John H. Ellis; Mr. James S. Loring; B. S. Shaw, M.D.; Mr. S. H. Smothers; Rev. E. M. P. Wells; Hon. Henry Wilson; and from Messrs. Deane, Folsom, Robbins (C.), Sibley, Thomas, and Winthrop, of the Society.

The President read a letter from George T. Curtis, Esq., presenting to the Society the records of the "Webster Memorial Committee," of which he was the Secretary.

The President presented as a gift from M. Mignet, the perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Moral and